



Five killed by bomb blast at Paris store

From Diana Geddes, Paris
But such a system would not have prevented the latest attack by two men who were seen hurling the bomb at a crowded cut-price clothes store on the Rue de Rennes, near Montparnasse, just before 5.30 pm yesterday.

It was the sixth and most deadly attack in the capital since the present wave of bombings began a fortnight ago. The toll has now risen to eight dead and more than 160 injured. The terrorists had given the Parisians just one day's respite since their last attack at the Paris police headquarters.

BEIRUT: Only hours after the French police offered the reward for information leading to the arrest of the two brothers of George Abdullah, the Lebanese gunman imprisoned in France who is believed to be head of a Marxist extremist group, the two young men appeared at a news conference in Lebanon to declare their innocence (Robert Fisk writes).

Election impasse seen by Owen

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor
The leader of the Social Democratic Party, Dr David Owen, yesterday predicted a hung Parliament after the next election and pledged that the Alliance would vote against any Queen's Speech not negotiated with the SDP and Liberals.



Mrs Thatcher on the turret of a tank yesterday while visiting a British Army base in West Germany. Details, page 20.

Reagan expels 25 Soviet UN employees

From Chris Thomas, Washington
The Reagan Administration, still smarting over the spying charges levelled against Mr Nicholas Daniloff, yesterday ordered 25 employees of the Soviet mission at the United Nations in New York to leave by October 1.

Disaster mine lost high safety rating

From Michael Hornsby, Kinross gold mine, Transvaal
The number of gold miners confirmed killed in the fire more than a mile underground here on Tuesday stood at 177 last night. Another six still unaccounted for are assumed dead.

Pound hits record low against mark

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent
The pound fell sharply yesterday, dropping below three marks for the first time. The Bank of England stepped in to limit sterling's decline.

Duarte's peace mission dismays Army chiefs

From Philip Jacobson, San Salvador
To the unconcealed dismay of his security chiefs, President Duarte appears determined to go ahead tomorrow with his own peace mission into the most dangerous region of El Salvador.

Pakistani boy wins a reprieve

By Peter Evans
Campaigners fighting to keep Khuram Azad, aged two, in Britain, have won a temporary reprieve. Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, has extended the boy's permission to stay until Mr and Mrs Abdul Khaliq, living in Bradford, hear the outcome of their application to adopt the boy.

Tomorrow Voice of the people

Daytime chat: how the huge success of an American television vox pop chat-show is spawning a new version of this side of the Atlantic

Portfolio Gold

There is £8,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition because there was no winner yesterday.

Three killed in Pyrenees crash

A British Army Air Corps Lynx helicopter training with a French mountain unit crashed near Fallgouse in the French Pyrenees yesterday, killing all three occupants, the Ministry of Defence said. It did not name the dead.

NatWest first

National Westminster Bank yesterday announced plans to become the first foreign bank to issue shares on the New York Stock Exchange and is applying for a US share listing. Details, page 21

N-test cash

The Australian Government has agreed to pay compensation to fall-out victims of British nuclear tests and believes Britain will help pay for a clean-up of test sites. Page 11

Poly awards

A list of students awarded first-class honours degrees by the polytechnics is published today. Page 4

Unions in Wapping offer talks

By Tim Jones
Print union leaders were last night considering whether to recommend to members acceptance of an offer made by News International aimed at ending the eight-month dispute over the company's move to Wapping.

RUC fear new wave of murders

Sectional killers struck for the second time in 24 hours yesterday bringing fears that paramilitary groups are embarking on a new wave of tit-for-tat murders in Northern Ireland.

Rugby case reprieve

David Bishop, the Pontypool and Wales rugby player who was jailed for four weeks for punching an opponent, had the sentence suspended for a year by the Appeal Court in London yesterday.

Karpov wins

Anatoly Karpov won the seventeenth game in the World Chess Championship at Leningrad last night. Gary Kasparov now needs 2½ points from the remaining seven games to retain the title.

Pat Phoenix dies, with new husband at bedside

By Alan Hamilton
Pat Phoenix, the actress who played Elsie Tanner in Coronation Street, died in a Manchester hospital early yesterday, aged 62. Miss Phoenix, who smoked 60 cigarettes a day, was recently diagnosed as suffering from lung cancer.



Pat Phoenix: fiery redhead

Confidence reports

Dr Owen was at pains to point out that the tax plan involved no increase in taxation. It was merely a matter of redistributing benefits and allowances. He criticized the Tory record on taxation, saying that the average earner was paying more now in direct tax than when Mrs Thatcher came to office.

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Perfume advertisement with large stylized text and 'The Story of a Murderer' by Patrick Suskind.

Enroe slips to depths of depression
This marriage left him drained
Coventry match for Brax

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, etc. and 2 columns: Court, Crosswords, etc.

MPs call for community compensation for dump sites

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

A call for compensation through the rates for householders who had unwelcome public installations built near them was made yesterday by the all-party Commons Select Committee on the Environment, which brushed aside objections by the Government.

Nuclear waste dumps were given as an example by Sir Hugh Rossi, Conservative chairman of the committee.

Sir Hugh said that compensation was a principle that had been rejected. "It is one that we reiterate and will continue to reiterate." The suggestion was a part of a massive reform of the planning inquiry system proposed by the select committee, after an investigation that began last January.

All rates charged to the owners of installations judged unwelcome but necessary should be paid to the local community, Sir Hugh said. That could be done by leaving them out of government calculations of rate income for the area.

If adopted, the proposal would mean that the rates paid on the Government's planned inland nuclear waste dump would go to villagers near by, and not to the county council. They would also be left out of the Government's calculation of rate income for the county.

The select committee proposed detailed reform of the planning inquiry system because it often took far too long to produce results and because it offered too many loopholes for frivolous users.

Sir Hugh said that if the present railway system did not exist, it would be unlikely to be built under present planning rules. "Just imagine what it would mean in terms of public inquiries and compulsory purchase orders in 1986," he said.

There was a case for a two-tier planning inquiry when questions of national policy were involved, he said. The present system of arguing about national policy at local inquiries was not working, and national policy ought to be established before the local inquiry started.

The select committee proposed public funding of voluntary organizations which gave evidence at inquiry hearings about government policy. "It will not be easy to devise a policy that will satisfy everyone," the select committee said.

The British Road Federation said that it was ironic the select committee's call for quicker public inquiries had been published when the record for the longest road inquiry in Britain was about to be broken.

The east London river crossing hearing into a route to relieve traffic congestion across the Thames will reach its 143rd day today, and is expected to last until the end of the year.

'Shut all N-plants' demand

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Greenpeace environmental group yesterday demanded that all Britain's atomic power stations should be closed down between 1988 and 1992.

The proposal was immediately attacked by the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) as "impracticable and irresponsible".

The Greenpeace proposal is based on a study by Dr Mark Barrett and Dr Francois Nectoux, of Earth Resources Research, an independent advisory service.

Its research estimated the increased use of coal, oil, gas and energy conservation in a non-nuclear Britain. The main power source would be two large new coal-fired stations to come into operation in 1995, and a smaller coal-fired Combined Heat and Power station. In addition, 15 stations using large gas turbines would be ordered.

Mr Colin Hines, of Greenpeace, said: "Lessons learnt coping with electricity supply during the miners' strike can obviously be put to use for the non-nuclear goal."

Mr John Baker, CEGB corporate managing director, said: "If there was a political decision to phase out nuclear power in Britain it would take at least 20 years to achieve."

He said: "The proposal is ludicrous in terms of running an electricity supply system

Neutrons 'can fight terrorism'

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Beams of potentially lethal radiation are being considered as a new weapon in the fight against terrorism in the air.

Two US companies have been experimenting with a system which would bombard luggage and cargo with neutrons. The atomic structure of the contents would then become excited and give off gamma rays which can be analysed for the presence of explosives or weapons.

Details of the new anti-terror device, which could not be used to check passengers, are disclosed in a new edition of *Jane's Airport Equipment*.

Mr David Rider, the editor, claims that Westinghouse in Pittsburgh and Science Applications International in California are working on a thermal neutron activator with funds provided by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Mr Rider says: "The system is in the prototype phase and is expected to be in production next year." He gives a warning that the device will be expensive and can never guarantee to prevent terrorism.

Most equipment for screening passengers is capable only of detecting metallic objects and the new generation of plastic pistols is unlikely to sound an alarm.

Jane's Airport Equipment 1986-87 (John Publishing Company Ltd, £7.2).



Protesters against hospital cuts in Liverpool greeting Mrs Edwina Currie, the new Under-Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, when she accompanied Mr Norman Fowler yesterday to a meeting in the city with 14 regional health authority chairmen.

Queen to see sights of China

By Alan Hamilton

The Queen will stray far from the well-trodden tourist route next month when she visits the People's Republic of China on what is likely to be one of the most unusual and spectacular overseas state visits of her 34-year reign.

Brief details of her itinerary released by the Chinese authorities yesterday disclose that as well as visiting several of China's biggest cities and best-known sights, she will make a long detour to the far south-west to the provincial capital of Kunming. The region is close to Laos, Vietnam and Burma, and has been included because it is one of China's most ethnically mixed areas.

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, will visit the city's Institute of Nationalities and will see several cultural displays. Few visitors on China's booming tourist trail penetrate so far into the hinterland of the country.

One of the highlights will be the welcoming ceremony being prepared for her by Chinese leaders in Tien An Min Square, the huge plaza in the centre of Peking which once echoed to the mass rallies of Chairman Mao.

The Queen will have informal talks with Chinese political leaders in the Great Hall of the People, and later visit the Forbidden City, former palace of the emperors.

Also included in her itinerary are visits to the Great Wall and Ming tombs, both a short distance from the capital, and a flight to see one of the great archaeological discoveries of the century, the buried terracotta army near the central Chinese city of Xi'an. Visits to the big cities of Shanghai and Canton will include at least one walkabout.

An invitation for the Queen to visit China has been outstanding for several years, but was considered politically possible only after Britain and China had reached agreement on the handover of Hong Kong, achieved at talks in Peking in 1984.

After her six-day visit to the mainland, the first by a British monarch, the Queen will sail from Canton on the Royal Yacht Britannia for a two-day visit to Hong Kong.

Call to end the 'going rate'

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Government yesterday stepped up its war of words over the coming round of pay settlements when Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Employment, demanded an end to the traditional notion of the "going rate" for workers' wage packets.

He was speaking after nearly a million local government manual workers had been offered a 6.7 per cent pay rise - well above the inflation level of 2.4 per cent.

Ministers are becoming increasingly alarmed at the prospect of a winter wages explosion destroying their hopes of a fall in unemployment next year and shattering a key plank in their election-winning strategy.

Mr Clarke, speaking on BBC Radio 4, condemned the local government deal as irresponsible and said it must not set a precedent for claims from other workers.

"It mustn't be imitated again... The going rate must be brought to an end because it means pricing people out of jobs and making it more difficult to get the unemployed into jobs."

"We have got to make sure that other people have rises which reflect the rate of inflation, the fact that they don't need pay rises to maintain their living standards, and are actually rewards for better performance, profitability and higher productivity."

"That's how we've all got to earn more pay."

Mr Clarke said that after last year's 8.1 per cent rise and

Pay settlements

a cut in taxation, the local government workers now earning between £83 and £95 a week did not need a significant rise to maintain their standard of living.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, has spoken about levels of pay settlements three times in the past two weeks, and the local government deal was also denounced by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Environment.

Ministers will be watching the outcome of settlements which cover 52,000 gas workers and 167,500 people in the mining industry.

Local deals could lead to increase in rates

The Government's recommendation that local councils negotiate pay levels with their staff might lead to higher rates rather than the lower ones sought by ministers, some council leaders said yesterday.

Several councils in the South-east are locked into national pay agreements which made it hard to recruit key technical staff who could command much higher pay in the private sector. Freedom from national pay agreements would enable councils to bid against private-sector salary packages.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that councils which could not meet the 6.7 per cent pay rise agreed for a million council manual workers on Tuesday night could negotiate local settlements "which reflect their ability to pay". His officials conceded yesterday that such local bargaining would be unprecedented.

But the national pay awards negotiated on behalf of councils under the Local Authorities Conditions of Service Advisory Board (Laccsab) were not binding on them.

Conservative-led Berkshire County Council said yesterday that it could cover the £1 million cost of the 6.7 per cent award to manual workers. Conservative Buckinghamshire said that the 6.7 per cent award could make it hard to meet other pay rises later in the present negotiating round.

The 6.7 per cent award was defended by Mr Jack Layden, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, who said that council manual workers had fallen behind other groups. "The people who benefit from this award include some of the worst-paid workers in the land."

No room at the Inns for barristers

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The severe shortage of barristers' chambers in London has led the Bar Council and Senate to appoint its own estate agent to encourage barristers to find rooms outside the four Inns of Court.

The unprecedented move is part of a campaign to expand the Bar's accommodation beyond traditional stamping grounds within a quarter of a mile of the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand.

Mr Justice Hirst, chairman of the Senate's accommodation committee, describes the situation now as critical.

The Bar Council and Senate have appointed Mr Robert West, of De Groot Collis, to advise barristers and help them to find suitable premises at discounted rates of commission.

Much accommodation used by barristers might have a "nice atmosphere" but it did not have even such basics as central heating or a lift up to rooms on a fourth floor, Mr West said. Many barristers share rooms and even desks.

In a modern building, the rents might be higher but that was more than offset by good heating, lighting, air conditioning and acoustic tiling.

One option is to find a commercial property developer prepared to convert large premises for use by several sets of chambers, such as in Birmingham, at Fountain Court.

Alternatively, sets of chambers are being encouraged to buy units of 3,000 to 4,000 square feet, which should be within the renting ability of specialist sets of chambers and also those in common law.

The Bar, along with other service industries, are now aware that image is important along with access to new technology and computers, which are not always suited to the type of offices in which they have traditionally worked, Mr West said.

One traditional attraction of the Inns was the low subsidised rents, but recently, because of the need to raise more money to refurbish existing premises and obtain new ones, the four Inns have been moving slowly moving towards economic rents.

The accommodation crisis stems from the huge expansion of the Bar in recent years. The four Inns have made efforts to increase their space (The Middle Temple by 50 per cent in 10 years) by buying buildings close by.

Third set of naval secrets found

The Ministry of Defence yesterday investigated a third discovery by a member of the public of sensitive Royal Navy papers.

This time confidential documents on the disposal of low-level nuclear waste were found stuffed at the back of a filing cabinet bought from a government surplus store in Plymouth.

Dating from 1969-72, they detailed levels of radiation emitted from ministry refuse and disclosed the safety checks made before the rubbish was sealed in concrete drums and dumped, probably at sea.

The discovery came after secret papers detailing Navy cuts were found on a towpath near Reading, Berkshire, and documents were picked up on a cliff-top at Sandown on the Isle of Wight.

The latest papers were handed to Mr John Knight, an anti-nuclear campaigner, who said they would help the movement discover where radioactive material was dumped.

Boxers face fracas charge

A former British boxing champion and an amateur boxer were remanded on bail for a month yesterday, when they appeared separately before magistrates at Newport, Gwent.

David Pearce, aged 27, who once held the heavyweight title, and Andrew Gerrard, aged 23, will appear again on October 15 to answer charges arising from what the prosecution described as a fracas in the town on Tuesday.

Heroin trial is restarted

The trial of six men accused of being part of an international ring which smuggled heroin through Heathrow Airport hidden in women's corsets had to be restarted yesterday at the Central Criminal Court.

Discharging the jury which had begun hearing the case, Judge Kant said it was for "a technical reason which I need not go into". He emphasized it had nothing to do with the accused.

Power station strike over

A strike by 800 workers at the Frybridge 'C' power station near Castleford, West Yorkshire, over the use of outside contractors, ended yesterday.

But a Central Electricity Generating Board spokesman could not say when the station's four generators would begin contributing to the national grid.

Jobs 'common market' plan

A scheme for a "common market" in professional qualifications throughout the European Economic Community is backed today in a report from the House of Lords select committee on the EEC.

But after consultations with 150 British professional bodies the report concludes that the EEC's deadline of 1992 for recognition of common qualifications is impossible.

Cheque fraud case dropped

A charge against a man alleged to have been involved in a \$26.8 million international fraud was withdrawn at Horseferry Road Magistrates Court yesterday.

Mr Jamaluddin Khan, aged 52 and unemployed, of Drayton Road, Harlesden, north-west London, had been accused of dishonestly handling stolen goods by assisting in the disposal of US Treasury cheques.

Secretary fails in job plea

A £40,000 a year secretary who leaked details of a secret bank account which directors of her firm used to pay for holidays was fairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal report said yesterday.

Mrs Elizabeth Byford, of Putney Hill, south-west London, told minority shareholders, of Film Finances' account after a deathbed instruction from Mr Bobby Garrett, a founding director who had been ousted from the board.

Green bank

Stephen Flanagan, of Richmond Road, Highbury, north London, who admitted painting a bank emerald green after being refused a business loan, was given a six-month sentence, suspended for 12 months, at Southwark Crown Court, yesterday.

Rooker spells out housing scheme

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Strong new powers designed to give council tenants the right to take over the management of their estates from local authorities would be given by a Labour government, Mr Jeffrey Rooker, the party's housing spokesman, promised last night.

In a speech which showed that the Labour Shadow Cabinet is ready to meet head-on the criticism from some local authority housing chairmen over the party's council housing policy, Mr Rooker told the officers that they had nothing to fear from giving tenants control.

Under Labour's plans tenants would be given the choice between simple participation and consultation rights or full control through management cooperatives.

The emphasis given by Mr Rooker to strong tenant management rights has upset the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities and council housing chairmen.

Taken along with the decision last year to change Labour policy to give council tenants the right to buy, Mr Rooker and the Shadow Cabinet are being accused of weakening the case for council housing. The unspoken reason appears to be fear that the policies would reduce their own power.

But Mr Rooker's comments are fully in line with Labour

Meacher's 'value for money' NHS

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Roy Hattersley's campaign for greater rigour in Labour spending plans bore fruit yesterday when Mr Michael Meacher, the party's health spokesman, pledged a new value-for-money drive in community care.

Mr Meacher, who was carpeted by Labour's shadow chancellor in the summer for making extravagant commitments, said that under Labour a watchdog body would be set up to monitor the costs and effectiveness of schemes aimed at improving services for the old, the mentally and physically handicapped and children with special needs.

Mr Meacher told the annual conference of the Association of Directors of Social Services in Cardiff that Britain could not afford to ignore community care given its cost advantages over big hospitals and institutions.

But he said: "Reported cost differentials in existing schemes do vary considerably, and I do stress very strongly that a rigorous system of evaluation must be built into all new and current service development, preferably carried out by a body independent of its administration."

Mr Hattersley has been working hard to dispel charges that his party would take a cavalier approach to public expenditure.

Mr Meacher echoed this tough approach when he castigated the Government for failing to undertake a thorough assessment of the differing needs of vulnerable individuals.

Lords force extra time on investment Bill

The Government has been forced to give the House of Lords more time to deal with the Financial Services Bill to ward off the threat of losing the whole measure (Sheila Gunn writes).

But Opposition peers said yesterday that they are prepared to jeopardize the Bill if all their fears about the proposed self-regulation of investment business are not allayed.

The House of Lords will now have three days next month to debate an estimated 600 new amendments. The Bill sets up the Securities and Investments Board, which will oversee the conduct of investment business.

The Department of Trade and Industry denied that the Bill had been "rewritten". The Government was demonstrating its concern for investors and those in the industry.

Racing press Losses mount in battle for readers

Losses are mounting on both sides in the contest between Mr Robert Maxwell's *Sporting Life*, the traditional daily newspaper of racing followers, and the *Racing Post*, backed by Sheikh Mohammed Maktoum of Dubai.

The *Racing Post*, whose circulation is less than half that of its rival, has worked its way through about £6 million since April and is said to need several million pounds of added investment to continue.

Sporting Life, bruised by the competition, is selling less advertising this year than it did in 1985, and is believed to have lost about £5 million so far this year.

concede defeat. Both publishers see the British racing scene offering large scope for growth, and the surviving paper in a position to collect a rich prize.

On current form, the favourite is *Sporting Life*. Established in 1859, the broadsheet paper appears to be working its way out of its industrial troubles and adjusting to the move of its printing from the Mirror Group's presses in Elgin Holborn to contract printers outside London. Circulation set a record in August at 86,791 copies a day.

But neither appears ready to

tech colour tabloid, the *Sporting Life* had to knock 15p off its price to match the *Four's* 25p cover price. The *Racing Post* claims to be close to its circulation target of 50,000 copies a day, and has siphoned some advertising from the *Sporting Life* by aggressive discounting of its rate card.

"We've made a good start and we're poised on the heels of the leader," Mr Graham Rock, editor of the *Racing Post*, said. "Our stamina will surprise people."

To improve its competitive position, *Sporting Life* is planning to shift its printing to a new press that will allow it to produce newspapers with more pages.

Mass walkout at artificial limbs factory

All 300 workers at a factory which makes artificial limbs were dismissed when they staged an "unofficial walkout" over the dismissal of four colleagues, the company said yesterday.

The workers at the J.E. Hanger factory in Roehampton, south-west London, walked out on Tuesday after four staff members set up a picket and called on their colleagues to stop overtime work in protest at productivity proposals.

Dr James Hiddleston, the company's managing director, said the workers had been consulted about the productivity scheme, which was under discussion

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Injection of Dextran beads coated with collagen could offer a cheap and simple alternative to human whole liver transplants.

Another link you may have missed between the purely academic and the sternly economic. Read *New Scientist*. Make the connection.

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Report confirms strong link between deprived areas and poor health

By Jill Sherman

Fresh evidence that unemployment and deprivation is closely linked with ill health is contained in a report focusing on the North-east.

The report, by Bristol University, backs up the findings in a 1980 report by Sir Douglas Black, former chief scientist at the Department of Health and Social Security.

The new study, commissioned by the Northern Regional Health Authority in 1984, shows a consistent correlation between poor health and social inequality.

The Black report showed the same link but Mr Patrick Jenkin, then Secretary of State for Social Services, dismissed its 37 recommendations as too costly to implement.

Professor Peter Townsend, one of the Black report authors, carried out the latest study. His report claims that nearly 1,500 deaths per annum in the region could be blamed on deprivation.

If populations in wards with the poorest health had enjoyed the health experienced by

those with the best health, 13,800 fewer people would have been permanently sick or disabled, a drop of 64 per cent.

It measures health on official figures for premature deaths, disability and low weight births. Deprivation is measured on unemployment, home ownership, car ownership and overcrowding.

Professor Townsend said yesterday: "The report has major implications for health policy. The Government needs to look outside the DHSS and address the wider issues of bad working, housing and environmental conditions and low income, leading to a low standard of diet, heating and clothing."

He said that the survey identified some areas where the health levels were even lower than would be expected given the profile of the population. In these areas, such as Eastington in south Tees, he called for a special inquiry into the effects of environmental pollution.

"South Tees is plagued with problems of pollution from

both chemical and metallurgical plants along the estuary. Further scientific studies should be undertaken to see if this explains the relatively high levels of mortality."

The British Medical Association yesterday urged ministers to act on the report.

The Department of Health said that ministers awaited with interest the response of other researchers. "We would not deny that there may be links between social deprivation and ill health. But we do not think that the nature of these links has been made clear. Whether inequality of ill health is increasing is a matter of some dispute."

Mr Douglas Hague, northern health region general manager, who commissioned the report, said that the region would need to reassess its allocation of resources in relation to the report, and hoped that the Government would do the same.

But he emphasized the need for greater co-operation between local authorities and health authorities.

Over-eating clue to breast cancer

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Young girls would grow up to be much less at risk from breast cancer if their parents encouraged them to eat less food and take more exercise, a leading specialist said yesterday.

Girls who had their first period at the age of 14 or 15 were 40 per cent less likely to develop this type of cancer than girls who began to menstruate at 12 years, and food was the important link in the onset of menstruation, Professor Malcolm Pike, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, said.

"We are not telling girls to be *Vogue* models or scarecrows. But having a child clean her plate at every mealtime seems very silly. Skinnyness is not a problem in our society, but obesity is," he said.

Research showed that Chinese and Japanese women, in whom the start of menstrua-

tion was as late as 18 or 19 years, had much lower rates of breast cancer than women in the west. But when Japanese girls settled in Hawaii and adopted western lifestyles, they began having periods much earlier and had a much higher rate of the disease.

Studies of female athletes showed that exercise reduced the frequency of periods as well as their onset.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, causing about 14,500 deaths a year in Britain.

Professor Pike was speaking at a news conference in London to launch an ICRF book, *Introduction to the Cellular and Molecular Biology of Cancer*, to which he is a contributor.

The book, edited by L.M. Franks and N. Teich, is published by Oxford University Press, price £15.

Big rise in pilgrim tour trade

By Derek Harris

Cultural and religious pilgrimages are becoming so popular that Inter-Church Travel, a Thomas Cook group subsidiary which claims to be market leader in the sector, is budgeting for a 25 per cent increase in travellers next year.

Inter-Church, often known as "God's travel agent", expects to send about 4,500 people on pilgrimages this year, more than two thirds of them to the Holy Land. Next year numbers are expected to rise to about 5,500.

New tours in its 1987 brochure published yesterday include Bulgaria and China.

Mr Douglas Cady, general manager of Inter-Church, said that television scares earlier this year slashed its bookings for two months, but demand jumped subsequently.

Inter-Church wants to widen the appeal of pilgrimages. In its first survey of pilgrim travellers it found that 39 per cent were over 65 and another 40 per cent were aged between 45 and 65.

Mr Cady said: "Many people leave it late before making their trip of a lifetime. We want to attract more in younger age brackets, probably the young marrieds primarily."

On many of the pilgrimages travellers visit churches, shrines and other places of religious and cultural interest, and meet with religious and community leaders. That is being done in Bulgaria and has also been arranged in the Soviet Union for a few private parties. Inter-Church may offer trips to Russia in future brochures.

Holy Land tour prices start at £459 for seven days, but eight nights at half-board can bring the price down to £339. The Holy Land prices are up next year between 1 per cent and 2 per cent compared with the past season. Some other prices have not risen, although Italian tours will increase by up to 5 per cent.

Pilgrimage tours in Britain start at £159 for seven nights, including excursions.



The Princess of Wales at the Wembley Conference Centre.



A swept-back "Duck's Anatomy" on the neck.



A shorter, sleeker, style reminiscent of the fifties.

Princess sports new hairstyle for designers

The Princess of Wales met some of Britain's finest young brains yesterday when she presented prizes to winners in the Young Engineer for Britain 1986 competition at Wembley.

Sporting a new hairstyle she toured an exhibition of 50 engineering and technology projects, designed and produced by 70 young people aged between 12 and 19, from all over Britain.

The overall winner was Matthew Barker, aged 16, of Edlington Comprehensive School, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, whose muscle stretching machine gained him the coveted title.

His Flex Aid machine is designed to help increase the suppleness of athletes, and dancers by stretching the hamstring and inner leg muscles.

After receiving a trophy he was presented with a £1,250 cheque for his school.

Other winning projects included: a design to help yachtsmen role their sails, electronic play kits, a computerized aid for the disabled, a walking aid for blind children and an automatic table tennis training machine.

A government-backed scheme for teachers and businessmen to visit each other's place of work is threatened with failure because too few executives can spare the time to take part (David Cross writes).

Mr Roger Lowans, the organizer of the programme at the Polytechnic of the South Bank, said yesterday that it had attracted only one favourable response.

The course will have to be abandoned unless 10 executives can be found by the end of the week.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, also took businessmen to task yesterday. They should "stop griping" about falling educational standards and become school governors he told the ruling council of the Confederation of British Industry.

Informer admits he lied about the IRA

By Michael Horsnell

An IRA informer who tipped off the police about a plot to bomb a public house in Blackpool admitted yesterday that he had lied repeatedly to Special Branch contacts.

Mr Raymond O'Connor, aged 51, said at the Central Criminal Court that once he had made contact, the officers put constant pressure on him to provide inside information on the Provisional IRA for more than two years and he felt he had to comply although it meant telling lies.

Mr O'Connor was giving evidence at the trial of Thomas Maguire, aged 27, an alleged IRA intelligence officer who denies conspiring with Patrick Magee and Patrick Murray to cause explosions in the United Kingdom between January 1982 and April 1983.

After Mr Maguire, a Dubliner with an address in Blackpool, had allegedly recruited Mr O'Connor into an IRA plot to blow up the Eagle and Child public house near an Army camp at Weston, he went to the police because he could not bear what was going on.

Under cross-examination by Mr Michael Mansfield, for Mr Maguire, Mr O'Connor said he regarded him as a son but realized he was getting into trouble.

He had met Mr Maguire's mother, Muriel, in about 1970 when they worked at a café in Blackpool and they lived together for more than 10 years with her seven children. He said: "I treated him as if he were my own son. He was very polite, treated me with respect and he was very fond of his mother."

Mr O'Connor said that he and Mr Maguire used to talk about Irish history when the younger man came to Blackpool during college holidays, and agreed that he told him the Weston camp was a base for soldiers going to Northern Ireland.

In January 1983, after receiving a letter from Mr Maguire, he went to the Lancashire police but soon began to give false information.

Mr O'Connor said: "I was pressured by the police. They wanted results and they wanted them fast. They were interested in the implications of the letter. They wanted more information. They were on my back almost on a daily basis."

Mr O'Connor agreed that in the course of giving the police false information he had implicated innocent Irish citizens. He also agreed that he had a long history of previous convictions.

The trial was adjourned until today.

Moves to improve aircraft safety listed at inquest

By Peter Davenport

The Civil Aviation Authority has made 12 recommendations to improve aircraft safety in the wake of the Manchester air disaster, it was disclosed yesterday. Many have been implemented by airlines and others, including the provision of smoke hoods, are under discussion.

The recommendations were given yesterday to the inquest on the 55 victims by Mr Ronald Ashford, the authority's director general of airworthiness.

Six of the recommendations deal with improvements to passenger evacuation from a smoke-filled aircraft:

1. A revised airworthiness directive to airlines to initiate more frequent and sophisticated checks on Boeing 737s with Pratt and Whitney JT8D engines to detect cracks in the combustion chamber cans, similar to those which led to the Manchester disaster.
2. Modifications, already carried out by Boeing, to prevent jamming of exit doors by the premature triggering of escape shutters as happened on one exit on the Manchester plane.
3. Over-wing emergency exits. The authority has instructed operators to create more space between the two rows of seats nearest the exits or to remove the seat closest to the escape hatch to make operation and access easier.
4. Clearer instructions on safety information leaflets.
5. Public address systems to be improved to prevent power loss on engine failure.
6. Smoke hoods: the authority is discussing the mandatory provision of hoods.
7. Improvements to materi-

als used in seats, cabin walls and ceilings.

8. Oxygen bottles carried for medicinal purposes to be equipped with a pressure release system to prevent their explosion in a fire.

9. Aisle width near galley areas at the front of aircraft improved for easier access to exit doors.

10. Airlines asked to suggest ways of improving the vision of seated cabin crew into passenger areas so that they are aware of an emergency.

11. Recommendations for the repositioning of megaphones and smoke hoods used by cabin crew to make them more accessible in emergencies.

12. After consideration of the part played by the engine thrust reverse interlockers, which provide braking facilities, the authority decided to make no changes.

Earlier, the inquest, on its eighth day, was told that British Airways had experienced an "epidemic" of problems with 737 engines in their fleet.

Complaints of slow acceleration, throttle stager and slow idle, which could be indicative of severe distress within the combustion chambers, had been regarded as a "relatively minor nuisance".

In February 1985, Pratt and Whitney sent a telex drawing airlines' attention to two incidents involving the engine, including one of a similar rupture of a combustion can to that which happened at Manchester.

The inquest was adjourned until today.

Airlines keen to use London's docklands

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Three new airlines wish to fly from the City of London's commuter airport - STOLport - which is planned to open next autumn.

Cityair, Endrange and City Airlink have asked the Civil Aviation Authority to be considered alongside British Air Ferries and Brymon Aviation for licences to fly from docklands.

Little is known of Cityair, which wants to fly to three European capitals and City Airlink one of whose directors is Mr Randolph Fields, who founded British Atlantic Airways.

The first batch of degree results from London University will be published tomorrow.

Fewer babies for single teenagers

The number of babies born to unmarried teenage mothers in 1984 was almost half the figure for 1970 but abortions in that same period rose, a family planning advice group said yesterday.

The annual report of the Brook Advisory Centres said that in 1984 out of 1,000 unmarried teenage girls aged between 15 and 19 almost 40 gave birth, compared with more than 71 per 1,000 in 1970.

The drop was matched by their conception rate, which fell from \$2.4 per 1,000 in 1970 to \$9.9 in 1984.

The group said that unwanted teenage pregnancies were being successfully combated by improved sex education and a wider use of contraceptives, but women aged between 16 and 19 had more than half of late abortions.

From 1973 to 1984 the abortion rate jumped from almost 11 for every 1,000 teenage girls to 20.

Concern over babies in jail with mothers

More than 100 babies were received into prison during the past year and 669 have been born there since 1975, the Howard League for Penal Reform said yesterday (Peter Evans writes).

Pregnant women and women with young children should not be sent to prison unless it is essential for the safety of the public, the league says.

"Many of the women sent to prison are there for minor property offences, and their children are made to suffer," Miss Frances Crook, the league's director, said.

Today's issue of the league's magazine, *Criminal Justice*, questions the morality and effectiveness of sending babies to prison with their mother.

Dr Stewart Britten, a child psychiatrist, says in another article that long-term damage is done to children separated from their mothers in prison, fostered and then returned to the care of an unfamiliar mother.

Judgement in plastic bullet case reserved

Judgement was reserved yesterday until next week at the trial of a policeman accused of manslaughter by firing the plastic bullet which killed Mr Sean Downes during a demonstration in Belfast.

Earlier, Mr Justice Hutton, sitting at Belfast Crown Court, was asked to stop the trial of Nigel Hegarty, aged 28, an RUC reservist based at Carrickfergus, on the ground that he had no case to answer. The application was refused.

Mr Hegarty has denied the unlawful killing of Mr Downes, aged 22, who was hit in the chest by a plastic bullet outside Sinn Féin offices in Belfast on August 12, 1984.

Big changes likely in theatre subsidy

By Gavin Bell, Arts Correspondent

Radical changes in theatre subsidy in England are expected to be proposed in the report of an independent inquiry, due to be published next Wednesday.

A key recommendation will be guidelines for the transfer of productions from subsidized to commercial theatres, to prevent any repetition of the recent controversy surrounding Sir Peter Hall and Mr Trevor Nunn.

Sir Peter and Mr Nunn have denied reports that they

amassed personal fortunes from the commercial exploitation of subsidized productions of the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

The inquiry, set up by the Arts Council under the chairmanship of Sir Kenneth Cork, announced last January that one of its objectives was "to investigate the use by other organizations and media of subsidized theatre product and resources".

Members of the committee have been sworn to secrecy pending publication of their report. However, it has

emerged that they have proposed specific guidelines for ensuring that theatres supported by taxpayers' money receive a fair return on the transfer of successful productions.

Sir Kenneth, who was appointed vice-chairman of the council last May, said shortly afterwards: "There has to be a way of rewarding companies for enterprise... when the Arts Council funds something that is exploited commercially, it should have a say in what happens."

The present relationship between the subsidised and

commercial sectors is described by theatre sources as a "free-for-all", in which the state-subsidized establishments have to negotiate as best they can with improvisers.

The inquiry is also believed to have proposed a "rationalization" of the system under which 49 theatres in England receive Arts Council funds.

Aware of limited financial resources, and increasing demands upon them, the committee is understood to favour channelling them into a smaller selection of the most promising ventures.

'Honest Ed' indulges taste for Shakespeare

A new touring company is to bring large productions of classical drama to theatres throughout the country and overseas, courtesy of "Honest Ed", an Irish bank and the Arts Council.

The English Shakespeare Company was launched officially yesterday under the joint direction of Mr Michael Bogdanov, a former associate director at the National Theatre, and Mr Michael Pennington, the actor.

The largest donation, of £125,000, has been provided by Mr Ed Mirvish and Mr David Mirvish, Canadian businessmen who own the Old

Opera faces decline as grant value falls

Opera companies face a period of decline unless the Government substantially increases financial support through the Arts Council or local authorities, the National Campaign for the Arts said yesterday.

Grants to the two national and seven regional opera companies were falling to keep pace with inflation, falling by 5 per cent in real terms over the past three years, it said.

The total opera grant of £19.5 million this year represented 18 per cent of Arts Council expenditure, compared with 26 per cent in the 1960s.

The fact that so much

Opera faces decline as grant value falls

opera has survived is largely due to the dedication, hard work and low pay of so many of the staff involved," it said.

Public subsidies for opera compared unfavourably with other countries, notably in West Germany, where the Bavarian State Opera received £20.5 million last year - more than three times the grant to the Royal Opera.

The regions were particularly affected, with several companies being forced to cut productions. However, government plans for local authority support for the arts showed a reduction over the next three years.



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Fears over 'hijack' of inquiry on Euro tunnel

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

MPs hearing evidence from objectors to the Channel tunnel believe that the big ferry companies operating out of Dover and Folkestone are attempting to hijack what is supposed to be a pioneering exercise in grassroots democracy.

The companies have a clear interest in seeing that the tunnel is never built and more than 4,000 local residents have petitioned against the £3 billion project.

MPs on the specially convened select committee, which has moved from Westminster to the Kent coastal town of Hythe, do not dispute that the local objectors to Euro Tunnel have very genuine fears and grievances.

Since Tuesday the committee has heard many fearful prophecies of tumbling house values, gardens being cut in two and of noise and environmental pollution.

A vicar said that vibrations would cause his graves to sink. A retired brigadier declared that the tunnel would be "Allah's gift to terrorists". Inevitably, there are breeding grounds of rare crested newts that will be destroyed.

Doubts arise because most of these objectors have been organized and advised by about a dozen agents who first told them how to submit their petitions to Parliament and are stage-managing their appearances before the committee. Most of these agents are employed by the ferry companies.

Among the more prominent are Gwyn Prosser and Tony Neumann, ships officers and members of the ferry officers' union, NUNAST, who are employed by Sealink Ferries, the Sea Containers subsidiary which put in its own unsuccessful bid for the project.

Another is Mr Robbie Browne-Claydon, a London parliamentary consultant representing 120 petitioners. His clients include Felixtowe and European Ferries. There are many other examples.

Even protesters with no direct ferry company connection admit receiving advice from them. Claire Beckett, a Saltwood antique shop owner,

had genuine fears about the tunnel but did not know how to petition Parliament so she accepted Sealink's offer of help and was shown how to draw up her petition.

Some MPs believe the ferry companies aim to discredit the hearings by having them portrayed in the media as chaotic - thus, it is argued, undermining the financial credibility of the whole project.

On Monday, Sealink announced that it was preparing to take the Government to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg for rushing the Bill through Parliament; and before the hearing opened on Tuesday, Mr Jonathan Aitken, the South Thanet anti-tunnel Conservative MP, denounced the hearings as "unfair in principle and unworkable in practice".

Interviewed on BBC Radio, Mr Peter Snape, a Labour MP and member of the committee, claimed to have evidence that Sealink had collected names of people who wanted to protest, even in some cases paying their £2 petition fee.

"They are determined to sabotage this scheme. We are concerned to hear people who properly want to make objections. They are likely to be squeezed out because of the disgraceful behaviour of Sealink," Mr Snape said.

None of the agents denies connections with the port ferry industry. While none admits to actually being paid to foment protests, as Mr Snape has suggested, Sealink concedes that it has been free with advice, while Townsend Thoresen certainly condones the sending out of letters to all its employees inviting them to petition. It is perfectly legitimate, the firm argues, to offer advice.

Miss Maureb Tomison, Sealink's director of communications, said: "It's profoundly undemocratic to say people should not be encouraged to petition if that is what they want to do. It's up to us to help people with genuine concern about their houses, jobs and schools to get justice."



Ely Cathedral choristers in full voice at Liverpool Street station yesterday with their director, Dr Arthur Wills (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Choir's appeal for £4m defeats the station roar

British Rail's Eastern Region yesterday delivered the Bishop of Ely, the dean, and the choir of Ely Cathedral on to platform 10 at Liverpool Street station in London spot on time to launch a £4 million appeal to restore the great Cambridgeshire church

known as the "Ship of the Fens".

The 26-strong choir battled manfully against an assortment of distractions. There were the trains, the station announcer (who obliged with details of the next train back to where they had come from)

and the workmen drilling holes in the roof.

A small crowd of interested passers-by joined the press to watch the choir sing in front of engine No 47572, the Ely Cathedral.

The cathedral, one of Britain's finest churches, ur-

gently needs £4 million for restoration work, a sum which the Dean of Ely, the Very Rev William Patterson, explained was for bare essentials only, with no provisions for improvements.

The renovations will take between six and seven years,

but the trustees of the appeal need to know by the end of this year that the cash is likely to be forthcoming.

The dean explained that a special service in the cathedral this Saturday will mark the extension of the appeal beyond Cambridgeshire.

Insurance firm in safe roads campaign

Britain's leading motor insurer, concerned at growing claims for accidents and reports of poor driving skills, yesterday launched a £2 million road safety package with the Department of Transport. Solutions to bad driving behaviour are to be studied at universities under long-term research fellowships set up by General Accident.

The campaign, viewed as a break from traditional approaches to road safety, is claimed to be the biggest initiative of its kind to be funded by a commercial enterprise with a government department.

It starts this autumn with a newspaper advertising campaign and competitions involving a video game.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the department, said yesterday: "We welcome the public stance General Accident has taken on road safety."

"Its support of the Government in addressing the tragic loss of life and suffering that results from the 245,000 accidents involving injury or death that occur in Britain each year is commendable."

Insurance companies lost £267 million on motor underwriting last year, the ninth consecutive year of losses.

Track safety rules 'ignored' before crash

Safety procedures apparently were not followed shortly before a train crashed through closed crossing gates near Gainsborough in Lincolnshire yesterday, British Rail said.

No one was injured in the accident at the Stow Park crossing, near Marton, when a goods train, careered through the gates which should have been closed to traffic.

British Rail's operation manager for Lincoln, Miss Catherine Gregory, said: "The accident should not have occurred. In this instance normal safety procedures were not followed."

The crash has revived worries about level crossings after the recent accident at Lockington, Humberside, in which nine people died.

Skipper fined £1,000 after hitting pier

The captain of the ship which rammed Southend pier earlier this year was fined £1,000 by magistrates at Grays, Essex, yesterday.

Frank Boyd, aged 43, of Beleyheath, Kent, told the court that he had passed out after a coughing fit before his ship, the 1,000-ton Kings Abbey, hit the pier on June 30.

The ship cut clean through the world's longest pleasure pier causing damage estimated at several million pounds.

The statements of two fishermen on the pier at the time of the accident were read to the court. Both stated they had seen no one on the bridge when the ship hit the pier.

Boyd pleaded guilty to navigating without due care and attention. Three other charges were dropped.

Fishing industry

Icelandic cod landings keep Grimsby alive

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Icelandic fish landings at Grimsby and Hull are breaking all records.

The landings come 12 years after the "cod war", when the Royal Navy attempted unsuccessfully to prevent Iceland from extending its territorial waters from 12 to 50 miles.

Mr Kenneth Beeken, secretary of the Grimsby Fish Merchants' Association, welcomed the trade as helping to keep the port alive.

The fish are caught by Icelandic vessels and then transported to Humberside in container ships.

According to *Fishing News*, about 35,000 tons of containerized fresh fish from Iceland will be auctioned at Hull and Grimsby this year and is expected to fetch some £30 million. About three quarters is cod, and the rest haddock and plaice.

In 1984 shipments were little more than 10,000 tons, but last year they increased to more than 25,000 tons, and this year more than 20,000 tons were landed in the first six months.

The boom has not been welcomed by Icelandic processors who complain that their own freezer plants are being starved of fish, and that their international export trade is being damaged.

The fishermen say the prices they get at home do not

compare with those on Humberside.

● A "plaice war" appears to be breaking out in the North Sea in grounds where predominantly Dutch trawlers are said to be "playing havoc" with boats from Grimsby.

There have been several incidents involving Grimsby's 100 anchor seine-net boats and Dutch beam trawlers fishing for plaice about 100 miles east-north-east of the English port.

Net and gear losses sustained by Grimsby boats have been estimated at tens of thousands of pounds.

Mr Nigel Atkins, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organizations, said yesterday: "There has been a steady increase in the number of incidents since February, when a complete set of nets worth £5,000 was lost."

It is so bad that Grimsby fishermen are not prepared to tolerate it any longer.

"We have called on the assistance of the Fisheries Inspectorate, who are now patrolling the area, and we are setting up a meeting early next month with the Dutch Fishermen's Federation," he said.

Last month Whitby fishermen accused the Dutch of starting a "herring war" after local boats lost gear and nets worth thousands of pounds.



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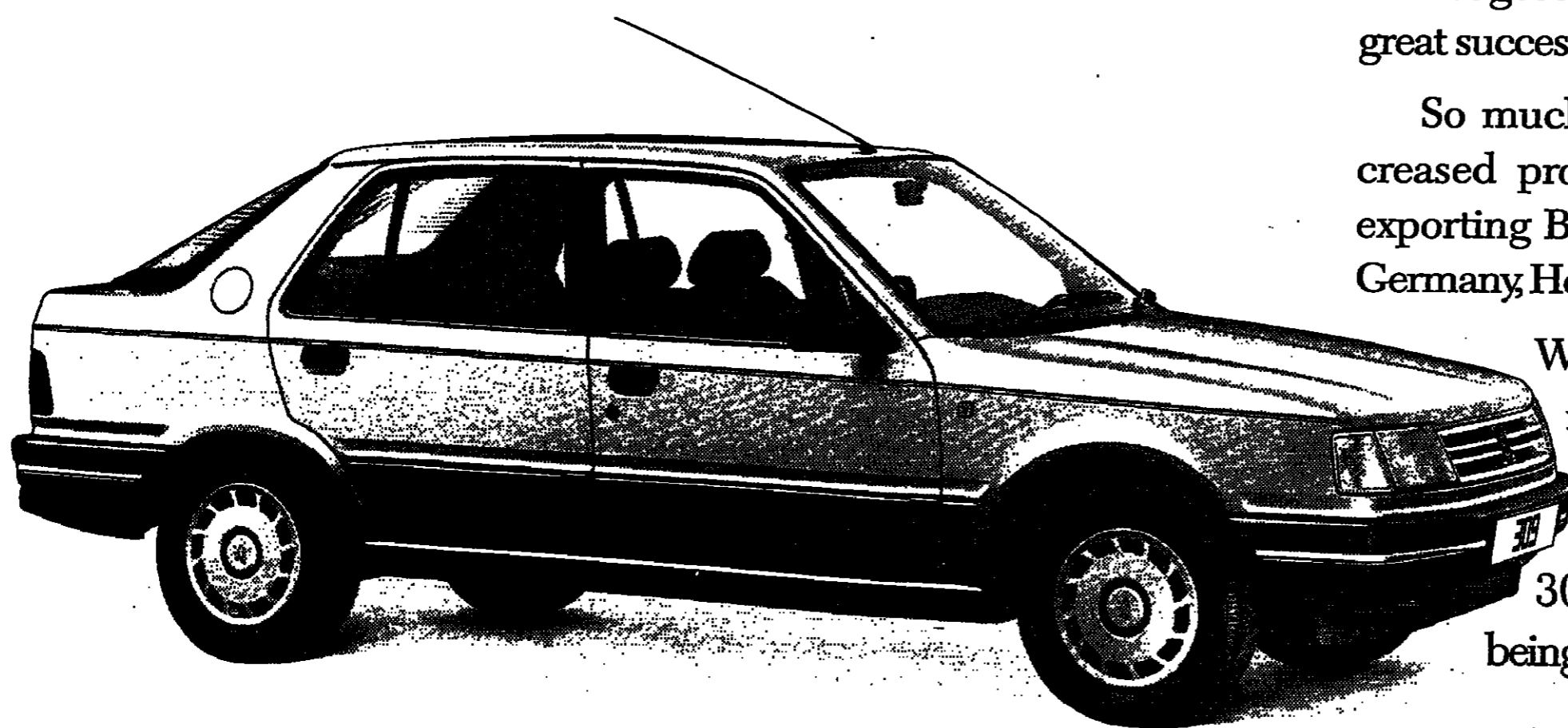
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Mine ends in fat

Hostel wives arrested

Death

Russia blame Pakistan on envoy's kill

Black workers bear the brunt of gold mining conditions

Mine disaster ends decline in fatality rate

From Michael Hornsby, Kinross Gold Mine, South Africa

The disaster at the Kinross gold mine in the Transvaal, the second worst mining accident of any kind in South Africa, came at a time when the appalling high fatality rate at gold mines was starting to decline.

For a long time the number of people, the vast majority of them black, who died each year seldom dropped below 600. Over the past 2½ years, however, the Chamber of Mines was able to point to a marked improvement in this grisly record.

In 1984, 592 gold miners were killed in accidents. The deaths dropped to 528 in 1985, and in the first six months of this year fell still further, when the fatality rate per 1,000 workers was running at 0.88, the first time it had fallen below one.

The comparative fatality rates for 1984 and 1985 were 1.18 and 1.03 per 1,000 respectively, showing the declining trend which has now been shattered by the Kinross tragedy.

It is probably not accidental that the improvement in the figures roughly coincided with the emergence three years ago of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in an industry where blacks had

never been successfully unionized before.

The NUM, under its General Secretary, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, has made the issue of mine safety a main feature of its negotiations with the Chamber of Mines, which represents mining companies.

Last year a report on mine safety, commissioned by the NUM from the Department of Sociology at the University of the Witwatersrand, strongly criticized the mining plants for lax or apathetic attitudes towards safety regulations.

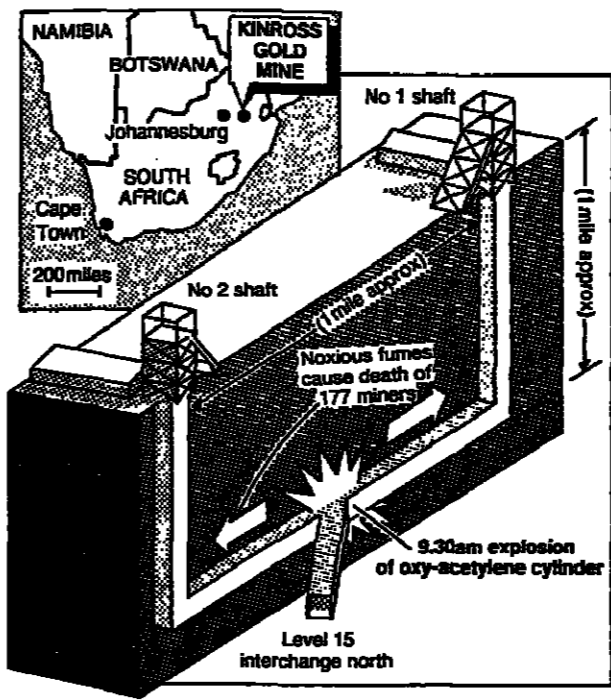
The companies concede that the fatality rate at gold mines is high by world standards, but in mitigation plead the unique conditions under which gold is mined here.

Between 450,000 and 500,000 blacks work in them at an average working depth of about one mile, where rock temperatures and pressures are intense and falls and "rockbursts" are frequent causes of accidents.

The Chamber of Mines can point to a sharp drop in accidents at gold mines since the late 1960s. In 1968 the accident rate was 64.1 per 1,000 workers employed, and by the first six months of this year it had declined to 21.8 per 1,000.



Black miners watching anxiously as rescuers continue the evacuation of fellow-workers from the Kinross mine yesterday. At right, how the miners died after an underground explosion and fire set off poisonous fumes throughout the gold workings.



NUM officials counter this claim, however, by pointing out that a worker has to be sufficiently seriously injured for him to be unable to perform his normal shift for 14 days before an accident is considered necessary to be reported, a period much longer than that observed in most mining countries.

Compensation to families of miners killed on duty is also limited. Widows can expect an annuity of about 40 per cent of her husband's salary at the time of his death. Some companies also pay a lump sum compensation equal to about two years' salary. The average monthly pay of black

miners is about 340 rands (£100).

The only way these relatives can obtain higher compensation is if they can prove in a court of law that the mining company was criminally negligent.

The fatality rate at coal mines is much lower — it was 0.42 per 1,000 employees in 1985 — though the two worst previous disasters were both at collieries.

In 1960, 435 miners were buried alive in a cave-in at the Coalbrook colliery, south of Johannesburg, and 68 were killed in a methane-gas explosion in 1983 in the Hlobane colliery in Natal.

British survivor praises rescuers

The horror of the South African goldmine disaster described by ex-British pitman, Mr Dick Grenfell, yesterday.

Mr Grenfell, aged 38, was at his job as a pump fitter about 6,000 ft underground, the lowest level of the Kinross mine, 65 miles east of Johannesburg, at the time of the tragedy.

The former Co. Durham coalminer said: "I just saw black fumes and smoke coming down the shaft towards us.

"We were lucky. The ventilation system took the smoke to every level of the mine, but by the time it reached us, it was diluted.

Mr Grenfell, married with three children aged 11, 10 and five, added: "The rescue teams were fantastic. They went into action straightaway and deserve every praise.

After spending the night in hospital, Mr Grenfell was due to return underground last night.

Hostel wives arrested

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Wives of black hostel dwellers who sneaked in to spend nights with their husbands have been arrested for "sleeping there without a permit".

Officials of the Community Services office of the Western Cape Provincial Administration made the arrests in a raid on the single-quarter Mfuleni hostel near Stellenbosch.

Other hostel residents had complained and six women were arrested, a spokesman for Community Services said.

Meanwhile, Mr Louis Nel, Deputy Minister of Information, yesterday visited Khayelitsha, the huge black township on the Cape Flats, 20 miles from Cape Town, that is being developed to try to overcome the squatter problem in the area.

Sanctions aid pledge by Norway

From A Correspondent, Harare

Norway's Prime Minister, Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, yesterday pledged increased assistance to the nine members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference should South Africa retaliate over sanctions.

Mrs Brundtland, chairman of the World Commission on Environment and Development, said that racism was one factor behind a Third World conservation crisis.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, opening a commission meeting here, said that crowding rural blacks into "tribal trust land" by the former Rhodesian Government had led to today's soil erosion.

But the threat to peace posed by apartheid overshadowed all development problems in southern Africa.

Research on Aids-herpes link hit Laboratory saboteur hunted

From Paul Vallely, New York

An investigation has been launched into the activities of a mysterious saboteur who has been tampering with experiments at America's leading Aids research laboratory.

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta have this week revealed that for the past five months experiments have been deliberately interfered with in a laboratory where work has been conducted on the relationship between Aids and herpes viruses. The saboteur is apparently someone who has legitimate access to the laboratories.

Aids Weekly, a newsletter based in Atlanta, has published a copy of a memorandum from Dr Gary Noble, assistant director of science, to the director of the centres, which revealed that from April to August at least "five

separate incidents of suspected intentional tampering with laboratory experiments have occurred in the viral exantemans and herpesvirus branch".

The attempts to spoil the research work have involved the shutting off of carbon dioxide supplies to incubators containing cultures of the viruses, as well as alterations to temperature controls to agitate the samples.

On three occasions the saboteur's tactics have necessitated the repetition of months of work, though the research on the Aids-herpes link has now been successfully completed.

The motive for the interference is unclear to security experts. The question of politically motivated sabotage by local right-wing, religious fundamentalists, who see Aids as a divine retribution on a decadent society, has been raised, but scientists at the

centres are inclined to think that it may be the work of some disgruntled employee.

"There is always the possibility that all these incidents were accidents. That is why we have launched the investigation," a spokeswoman at the centres said.

There was no evidence at this stage that sabotage was directed primarily at the Aids research. "Very few people would know that Aids research was carried out in this branch," she added.

One theory was that some employee was spoiling experiments as a protest against recently introduced management changes.

Entry to the laboratories is normally possible only by a top security card-key number, which is computer-controlled. Checks on the computer files have shown that all the people who entered the building at the crucial times were "deemed appropriate".

Greek row over shots by Turkey

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece protested to Turkey yesterday that Turkish warships on exercise in the Aegean had fired across the bows of a Greek patrol boat.

An Athens announcement said that Mr Nazmi Akman, the Turkish Ambassador, was called in by Mr Yiannis Kapsis, the Greek Foreign Minister, who "emphasized the gravity of the incident and the eventual international repercussions from such acts".

Mr Kapsis said that Turkish naval vessels, in international waters south of the Greek island of Lesbos on Tuesday, had fired 10 shells within 200 yards of the stern of the Greek patrol ship Panagopoulos I.

The statement said that European Community governments had been told of the incident.

Russians to see play on Chernobyl

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Soviet theatregoers are soon to see a remarkable dramatization of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, written by a senior journalist from Pravda and filled with bitter criticism of aspects of official behaviour both before and after the explosion on April 26.

The play contains scathing references to the failure to organize the immediate evacuation of tens of thousands of citizens from the danger zone and also portrays senior operators at the stricken plant in the Ukraine complaining angrily about the poor quality and late delivery of certain key pieces of safety equipment.

Written in a deliberately populist style by Vladimir Gubarev, the Pravda Science Editor, who was on the spot in the dangerous aftermath of the disaster, the play paints a disturbing picture of how freshly picked cucumbers were being sold and open-air football games being played on April 26 as the nearby plant was spewing out radiation.

The play avoids making any distinction between the fictional and the factual, but its account of the various shortcomings is expected to make it one of the most controversial performances seen on the Soviet stage in recent years.

Introducing his first attempt at playwriting, Mr Gubarev said it was the best medium to bring home to the Soviet people what he had found.

A senior Western diplomat said that it was "unprecedented" for a Soviet domestic catastrophe to be handled on the stage in such an open fashion and so quickly after it had taken place. "It is the most convincing example to date of the change in the cultural climate taking place under Gorbachov," he said.

As well as the criticism, the play also contains a number of harrowing scenes depicting the suffering and heroism of some of those caught up in the world's worst nuclear disaster.

In one poignant scene, a Soviet militia general who has voluntarily been supervising work close to the blazing reactor suddenly discovers large clumps of his hair falling out as he combs it.

Entitled *Sarcophagus* in reference to the yet unfinished process of entombing the crippled Chernobyl reactor in thick concrete, the play is now under rehearsal in a number of Soviet theatres. Long extracts have already been published in the Communist Party Central Committee's paper, *Sovetskaya Kultura*, a rare honour for the first work of a new playwright.

Aquino's US visit wins new credits

Washington — President Aquino of the Philippines met President Reagan at the White House for the first time yesterday, the high spot of a nine-day visit that is yielding effusive political support from the Administration and generous new terms from international banking institutions (Christopher Thomas writes).

The way has now been cleared for Manila to obtain about \$800 million (£533 million) in new credits from international banks.

The World Bank said it was prepared to commit \$500 million to \$600 million in loans for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1987.

Fleming case

Miami (Reuters) — US immigration authorities asked a judge to order the deportation to Britain of John Fleming, a Briton who has been linked to the Brinks-Mat robbery of £26 million in gold bullion.

Ershad runs

Bangladesh (AP) — President Ershad officially became the ruling Jatiya Party's presidential candidate for an election opposition parties have pledged to boycott.

Dock strike

Paris (Reuters) — French dockers started a 48-hour strike in protest at economic policies of the Government which have led to redundancies, a union spokesman said. The strike is not affecting ferry sailings.

Soviet claim

Riga (AFP) — Moscow has evidence that US military advisers have been killed in Afghanistan, and that crimes against civilians have been committed by men wearing US-made Soviet uniforms, a Foreign Affairs official said.

British bomb

Berlin (AP) — A British Second World War bomb, discovered by East Berlin construction workers, was defused after 1,200 people were evacuated.

88 leave

Geneva (Reuters) — Eighty-eight Soviet Jews were permitted to leave for the West last month, the highest figure registered this year, according to the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration.

Spanish ire

Madrid — The Spanish weekly *Tiempo* denounced a six-day detention in Algeria of Señor Pedro Canales, one of its journalists.

UN commander welcomes Amal offer

Death threat for attacks on Unifil

From Robert Fisk, Tyre

In an unprecedented alignment with the Shia Muslim Amal militia, the commander of the United Nations force in southern Lebanon yesterday enthusiastically endorsed a militia promise to put to death anyone attacking UN troops in the country.

At the same time, Amal officials, who are already holding five men for a series of attacks on UN soldiers, claimed that a demonstration in Tyre by thousands of villagers in support of the UN provided a mandate for them to "execute" anyone held responsible for the landmine explosions which have killed five UN soldiers and wounded many others.

The Amal decision, and the UN's approval of it, marks a turning-point in the long saga of the international army in southern Lebanon.

It placed the UN firmly behind Amal in its struggle against the pro-Iranian Hezbollah "Party of God" militia, but it also raises grave moral issues, as Amal's victims are unlikely to be given any form of trial.

Since the UN itself has no judicial power in Lebanon, its officers probably had little option but to accept what is in effect Amal's quasi-judicial protection. Nor can it go on accepting fatalities on the present scale.

But Major-General Gustav Hagglund was not mincing his

words yesterday when I asked him what he thought of Amal's promise to "execute" those attacking the UN. "I hope this promise will be kept," he said firmly.

If those who were attacking UN troops were "brought to justice", the general commented, it would have a good effect on the morale of Unifil as well as on a population which supported the UN's mission and disapproved of the killings.

But he revealed that he had already ordered the French contingent, which is most vulnerable to attack, to withdraw from 11 of its 30 outposts in the French battalion area around the village of Marrakeh, and after some thought he conceded that he intended "to do some redeploying of the French".

General Hagglund seems to be a tougher, more forceful character than his Irish predecessor, Major-General William Callaghan, though he was a trifle rueful when I asked him about the "outrage" expressed by M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, when he heard that the general had taken a holiday while the French UN contingent was under daily attack.

"I am a United Nations employee," General Hagglund replied. "I cannot comment on what the Prime Minister of France says. I can only comment on my holiday. I am happy I am back."

He had taken only two

weeks' leave in the past two years, he explained, and felt it was time to see his family again. "After Mr (Marrack) Gosling (the UN Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs) visited this area to see the situation, he decided to authorize a leave for me on the understanding that, if the situation got worse, I would return... I was called to return by Mr Gosling."

General Hagglund is a slim, rather ascetic figure who can nevertheless exhibit considerable anger when talking of the death of his troops. The killing of Lieutenant Angus Murphy, the Irish officer blown up by a landmine on a dirt track near the village of Yater last month, was "a particularly dreadful thing."

The bomb had been controlled by men who could see their target clearly and intended to kill UN troops. "The Irish had been receiving a number of threats not to use that road," he said.

There had been objections because UN soldiers defused mines along the track which had been laid for the Israelis and their Lebanese allies.

The UN may at least take some comfort from the events in Tyre yesterday. Despite the fear expressed by some shopkeepers in Tyre, many thousands of ordinary Shia men and women were prepared to demonstrate in the city on the UN's behalf, holding banners which proclaimed their insistence that the UN must stay.

When General Hagglund

addressed them from the roof of the UN's logistic unit on the Tyre seashore, his declaration that his soldiers had come to help "the poor and deprived people of southern Lebanon" was greeted by cries of "Allahu Akbar" (God is greater) from Shia gunmen, village couples and many young girls, some of whom were dressed in black chadors and holding AK 47 automatic rifles.

Mr Abdul-Majid Saleh, the most prominent Amal official in Tyre, said that it would be a "catastrophe" if the UN left while Daoud Daoud, the more popular of the organization's militia leaders, spoke in blood-thirsty terms of how "we shall chop off the hands and cut off the heads of all those who attack Unifil".

His aides said that he meant what he said, but that those guilty of killing Unifil soldiers would be shot in Beirut.

Yet Amal may have its work cut out. The French contingent came under rocket fire near the village of Ein Baal yet again on Tuesday evening.

And Amal's power over the Hezbollah is steadily waning in the south, just as it has almost crumbled in many Shia areas of west Beirut.

The turbaned sheikhs and bearded Amal gunmen who mingled with the smartly-dressed UN officers, in Tyre yesterday have taken a gamble in protecting the UN, just as the UN is gambling on Amal's survival in southern Lebanon. It is a dangerous game.

Russia blames Pakistan over envoy's killing

Moscow (Reuters) — Tass said yesterday that Pakistan's authorities could not escape blame for the killing in Islamabad on Tuesday of a Soviet military attaché, Colonel Fyodor Gorenkov.

"The Pakistani authorities cannot get away from being held accountable. They should be well aware that such actions cannot remain without consequences for the further development of relations between the two countries," it said.

Colonel Gorenkov was shot dead as he was driving near the presidential palace.

Libya seeks censure of US raids

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Libya has obtained the inclusion in the agenda of the new General Assembly an item aimed against the United States for the reprisal raids last April, in a move to isolate Washington.

The steering committee approved the Libyan request without a vote on Tuesday after the American delegate, Mr Herbert Okun, raised no formal objection. Traditionally the US does not oppose the adoption of items for the UN agenda, even if Washington is the principal target.

But Mr Okun made plain that the US reserved its right to make its own charges

against Libya, arising out of the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque frequented by American troops. It was that incident in which an American soldier was killed, along with a Turkish woman, that led to the American air strikes against Tripoli and Benghazi.

Libya's move is intended to buffer it from further US strikes. But if its lack of enthusiastic support in the Security Council is carried over to the assembly, its propaganda campaign against Washington will be far from successful.

A majority of Third World members, although feeling compelled to chasten the Reagan Administration for

attacking one of its own, sees Libya as a menace and privately believes it got what it deserved.

Meanwhile, the General Assembly turned yesterday to the problem of Namibia, with African delegates presenting new demands for comprehensive sanctions against South Africa which rules the territory in defiance of repeated UN resolutions.

Mr Antoine Ndinga Oba, the Foreign Minister of Congo and acting chairman of the Organization of African Unity, who opened the four-day debate, advocated a total blockade of South Africa and assistance to the front-line states.

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Candidates show their paces as US election battles begin

Populist preacher uses television link-up to join race for presidency

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Rev Pat Robertson, the populist evangelical preacher and head of America's largest Christian broadcasting network, declared last night that he was entering the 1988 presidential race.

Speaking from Washington last night by closed-circuit television to more than 200,000 people in 216 sites around the country, Mr Robertson said he intended to seek the Republican nomination if he could garner the signatures and support of three million people. It is believed to be the first time that a leading presidential contender has used television to launch his race.

Though not yet an officially declared candidate, Mr Robertson's long-expected entry into the crowded field has thrown Republicans into disarray. The leading contenders, such as Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, Congressman Jack Kemp and Senator Robert Dole, see him as a spoiler, who will siphon off a large number of key voters on the party's right wing and become a powerful magnet for the religious conservatives who helped President Reagan enter the White House.

In particular, his experience in broadcasting, reaching a flock of up to 17 million people five days a week, gives him a big advantage in a campaign where television will play a larger role than ever before.

Mr Robertson's aides said that the closed-circuit broadcast from Constitution Hall in Washington to audiences invited to gather at selected points around the country was found to be cost-effective and

cheaper than a postal campaign. Mr Robertson's own Christian Broadcasting Network was not involved.

The genial, cherubic-faced Southern Baptist preacher who has built a \$70 million (£47.5 million) broadcasting empire is no stranger to politics. Aged 56 and the son of a former Virginia senator, he has taken an increasingly political stand on abortion, school prayers and a return to traditional family values.

Despite a public humility which insists that his decision on a candidacy depends entirely on "God's will", Mr Robertson is adept at using theatre and oratory to rouse his supporters. But with a degree from Yale University, a good military record in Korea and an affable manner, he comes across less harshly, and to many people less threateningly, than other fundamentalist campaigners, such as the Rev Jerry Falwell, though the message is the same.

His constant mixing of religion and politics, however, has given ammunition to his critics, who have accused him of violating the constitutional separation of church and state.

And though he entered the pre-primary manoeuvres in Michigan last month, he fell way behind Mr Bush and Mr Kemp, and appeared to alienate many cool Northerners with his biblical strictures.

In some ways Mr Robertson is a Republican equivalent of the Rev Jesse Jackson, the black Democratic activist, whose intervention in 1984 put great pressure on Mr Walter Mondale. Mr Robertson has never previously

sought public office, but he has the advantage of considerable personal wealth and a national network of supporters - the National Freedom Council - which he formed in 1981 to encourage political activity among fundamentalists.

He bought his television network - on God's instructions, he says - in 1960 for \$70 and a \$37,000 loan. His business skill has now built this up to a \$230 million enterprise. He opposes government welfare programmes, favours capital punishment, denies that he is seeking to impose his Christian beliefs on the country, and wants a continuation of the US defence build-up.

His critics say his faith-healing activities may rouse scepticism among many voters, and that his lack of political experience will begin to tell as he comes under the intense public scrutiny given to all presidential aspirants.

But leading Republicans are taking Mr Robertson seriously, and are already preparing their counter-attacks.



Mr Joseph Kennedy, looking remarkably like his father, Senator Robert Kennedy, right, acknowledging victory.

Magic works for another Kennedy

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Joseph Kennedy, the eldest son of the late Senator Robert Kennedy, yesterday comfortably won his primary race in Boston for the seat once held by his uncle, John. He is now virtually assured of election to Congress in November.

Mr Thomas O'Neill, the Speaker of the House, was among the first to congratulate Mr Kennedy, who has been chosen as the Democratic candidate for a seat Mr O'Neill has held for the past 34 years.

Mr Kennedy, aged 33, an early favourite in a crowded

field of 11 candidates, won 58 per cent of the vote compared with 25 per cent for Mr George Bachrach, a Massachusetts state senator and his nearest rival.

Mr Kennedy played his family connections like a well-tuned orchestra. His adviser behind the scenes was Mr Richard Gordon, his father's speechwriter. His grandmother, Mrs Rose Kennedy, figured in all his speeches to the elderly.

Although Senator Edward Kennedy did not actively support his nephew, Mr Bachrach's supporters said he

worked quietly on his behalf.

Mr Kennedy, who had supported the bombing of Libya, showed his rapier repartee in a television debate with Mr Bachrach. His opponent accused a subsidiary of the Kennedy's Citizens Energy Corporation of borrowing money from a consortium that included three Libyan banks.

"Are you in back to Mr Gadafli?" Mr Bachrach demanded. Bristling, Mr Kennedy replied: "Libya offered asylum to Sirhan Sirhan after he killed my father." Mr Bachrach dejectedly admitted a few days later that the response was a "show-stopper".

Stockholm security conference

Delegates on brink of historic deal

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Delegates to the Stockholm security conference will meet tonight to thrash out the last details of an historic East-West agreement which will limit the risk of war in Europe and aims at providing the foundation for a better atmosphere in international relations.

There is every indication that this accord - the first since Salt 2 - will be ready by the conference deadline tomorrow, but there could even be provision for the conference clock to be stopped over the weekend as delegates iron out any last-minute problems.

However, Dr Wolfgang Loibl, head of the Austrian delegation, told a press conference organized by the neutral and non-aligned countries yesterday: "Most of the problems are solved and those left are, in my judgment, of a minor, linguistic importance."

The Stockholm agreement, likely to be about 20 pages of complex diplomatic phraseology, will allow for on-site inspection of military manoeuvres in both Eastern and Western Europe, marking an important breakthrough as it is the first time the Soviet Union has agreed to such a measure.

It will stipulate that any troop manoeuvres involving

more than 75,000 men must be notified two years in advance.

It will contain paragraphs on non-use of force and the importance of human rights and will reaffirm the international community's determination to fight terrorism.

Dr Loibl said: "A few months ago, no one would have believed such measures as on-site inspection or air inspection of military manoeuvres could be possible."

"Think about what was possible 10 years ago and think about what we have achieved today, and it becomes still more remarkable."

"Even in 1984 I would never have believed we could come so far."

Mr Curt Lidgard, head of the Swedish delegation, described the forthcoming agreement as the first phase of a European disarmament programme. "It is necessary to have a firm foundation, and this is precisely what we are trying to achieve in Stockholm," he said.

A statement issued yesterday by the Polish delegation also intimated that agreement was close. "Almost the entire text of a concluding document is ready or nearly ready," it said. "The successful conclusion of our work is only a step away."

French terrorist reward pays off

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The Government's unprecedented decision to offer a reward of up to 1 million francs (£100,000) for information about the recent spate of Paris bombings has already produced its first fruit.

The discovery of a cache of about 90 lb of explosives, 10 grenades, and more than 80 detonators was announced by the Interior Ministry yesterday.

The offer of the reward, together with the photographs of two Lebanese brothers the police are particularly interested in questioning, went up on 200,000 posters throughout France yesterday.

One of the two men is apparently suspected of having carried out the bomb attack at a cafeteria at La Defense last Friday, in which 41 people were injured.

His photograph apparently fits the description given by eye-witnesses of a man seen running away from the scene shortly before the blast.

While the Government's move in appealing for witnesses has been generally welcomed, two national newspapers - the respected independent daily *Liberation* and the Communist paper *L'Humanité* - refused to print the photographs of the two men, against whom no charges have yet been brought, and

condemned what they saw as incitement for people to turn informers against their neighbours.

The two men shown on the poster are Maurice and Robert Ibrahim Abdallah, younger brothers of Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, leader of the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction, whose release from prison in France is one of the principal demands of the Committee for Solidarity with Middle Eastern and Arab Political Prisoners (CSPPA), the group claiming responsibility for all the latest Paris bombings.

Maurice and Robert were identified by M Gilles Peyrolles, former head of the French cultural centre in Tripoli, Lebanon, as being among his kidnapers in northern Lebanon in 1985.

The already tight security around the Elysee Palace was stepped up even further yesterday, following a second warning from the CSPPA that the official presidential residence will be its next target.

Traffic in front of the Elysee Palace along the Rue du Faubourg St Honoré has been reduced to one lane during the day and is banned at night.

No package may be delivered without first being scrutinized by a bomb detector.

Police told to ignore summons

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Señor José Barrionuevo, the Spanish Interior Minister, yesterday admitted that the Government had ordered military Civil Guards not to answer a summons issued by a Bilbao magistrate investigating torture allegations.

He indicated that the order not to appear, issued by the Guards' superior, had the approval of Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, as well as the Ministry of Justice.

Señor Barrionuevo, appearing before a parliamentary committee charged with a regular review of Spain's anti-terrorism laws, ended up being questioned by opposition spokesmen from the Democratic Centre party of Señor Adolfo Suárez, the former Prime Minister, and the Communists.

They tackled him on the executive's conduct over justice, including the fate of a criminal while in police detention in Madrid in 1983 who is thought to be the first Argentine-style *desaparecido* (disappeared one) of Spanish democracy.

The minister argued that summoning 90 Civil Guards to appear before an identification parade in connection with charges of torture brought by the relatives of an Eta leader could be illegal since it did not protect the policemen's rights of defence.

Moves to end Danish squat crisis

From Christopher Follett Copenhagen

There was an uneasy calm in the East End of Copenhagen yesterday as hectic negotiations continued to find a peaceful end to the four-day-old occupation of a condemned block of flats by 200 masked squatters.

Police said that all was quiet near the house in the Osterbro quarter which the squatters occupied on Sunday. They put up street barricades after they were threatened with eviction by the local authorities.

There were fears of a big confrontation at the beginning of the week when squatters, hurling stones and petrol bombs, injured 10 riot policemen. Nine people were arrested. However, there have been no further attacks on the police surrounding the block.

Private organizations and citizens' groups have offered to purchase the condemned building and let the squatters live on there, if the Copenhagen city authorities agree.

Intense negotiations went on throughout yesterday in an attempt to resolve the crisis.

The squatters belong to an action group known as the "BZ'ers." The group has often won support from sections of the political left in Denmark for its squatting actions.

Copenhagen suffers from a serious housing crisis, and a shortage of accommodation for young people in particular.

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*Fig. 2 The Scottish
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*Fig. 3 English Estates
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Compensation for fall-out victims

Australia is confident Britain will help pay for Maralinga clean-up

The Hawke Government has agreed to pay compensation to civilians affected by British nuclear testing in Australia...

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

These were the main points to emerge yesterday from Canberra's response to the recommendations...

Canberra has asked Britain to fund half the \$Aus 3.4 million cost. No response has been received.

Senator Evans said there was no clearly identifiable figure for the cost of the actual clean-up...

He was no more specific on what the Australian Government has let itself in for by opening the door to civilian claims for compensation.

By one estimate, between 200 and 300 people could each win a successful claim of about \$Aus 100,000.

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Sydney judges protest at inquiry

Sydney - Judges of the New South Wales Supreme Court lined up in opposition to state government plans for a commission to investigate complaints against them...

They were protesting against a draft Bill providing for dismissing judges without reference to Parliament.

The Government has just announced its intention to set up a judicial commission, consisting of three judges, to investigate complaints against the bench.

Poland offers olive branch to critics

Poland's authorities were open to political proposals and ideas from non-communists after the recent amnesty of dissidents and Solidarity activists...

Different schemes are being hatched, including so-called consultative councils which will incorporate non-communists including, if the Church approves, independent Roman Catholic laymen.

One conservative Catholic, Mr Marcin Krol, has also been given permission to start an independent magazine, Res Publica, which could become a modest forum for dissenting voices.

Prince's wit a sales hit

The wit, wisdom and regal sense of timing of the Prince of Wales are best sellers in Japan.

Cassette tapes of speeches the Prince made during his visit with the Princess of Wales in May are selling at the rate of 4,000 a month - faster than any such specialist tape in the past.

Normal tapes of the speeches of President Kennedy, the works of Shakespeare, or a classic like Jane Eyre would go at the rate of about 3,000 over two years.

Thailand puts security forces on border alert

Thai security forces are on full alert along a section of the Burmese border to prevent a spill-over of fighting from a week-long battle between rebel groups.

The rebels are fighting for control of heroin stocks and supply lines in the Shan state opposite the Thai province of Chiang Mai.

Thai intelligence officers say about 200 men are involved in the battle between forces of the notorious opium warlord, Khun Sa, and Burmese Communist Party guerrillas.

World Bridge Champions survive

Chip Martel and Lov Stansby, defending champions of the open pairs title with Hugh Ross and Peter Pender, survived dramatically in round three of the knockout teams championship of the world bridge titles being played here.

With one board to play in their match against the Indonesian team, led by Felix Waluyan, the scores were tied. On the final board Martel, probably believing himself to be behind, overreached to a contract of four spades which was doubled and apparently certain to fail.

An unusual opening lead of a low club from ace and another gave the Americans their contract. Martel's team were runners-up in the event last played in the 1984 Olympiad.



Forteen of 20 soldiers and civilians charged with the murder of Benigno Aquino, the Philippines opposition leader, sitting solemnly at the Manila Air Force Headquarters yesterday after arrest warrants were served on them.

On Tuesday, a judge had ordered the arrest of 26 defendants whose acquittals in the assassination of Mr Aquino, the husband of President Corason Aquino, were overturned by the Supreme Court last week.

The court said the acquittal of the former armed forces chief, General Fabian Ver, and the 25 others was a "sham" orchestrated by Mr Ferdinand Marcos, who was President at the time.

Mr Antonio Coronel, one of General Ver's defence lawyers, said the arrest warrants were illegal because they were based on the original charges.

Jaffna Tamils prepare for post-settlement future

Tiger guerrillas step into rulers' role

A strange sense of normality has pervaded this northern Sri Lankan peninsula. For the first time for three years the Hindus (the Tamil population here is mainly Hindu) have been celebrating the festival of Murugan, the second son of Lord Shiva, brother of the elephant-headed Ganesha and, if pantheons were governments, commander of the armed forces of the gods.

There was much ill-feeling. I discovered then, against the anti-social excesses of the militants themselves. Rich farmers had been killed and robbed. A Hindu temple had been looted.

Now the atmosphere is far more relaxed. The militants claim to have eradicated the anti-social elements themselves.

One of the more attractive little parks in Jaffna town commemorates a dead Tiger lieutenant and houses a children's zoo complete with deer, monkeys, guinea pigs, a cross-looking tethered crocodile, and a tiny baby elephant.

Thirty thousand people assembled each night of the 25-day festival at the biggest temple in the town to watch the deity, also called Skanda, being paraded in a variety of chariots around the walls, and to see incidents from his mythology being performed.

The festival became a carnival, too, with a fairground of stalls selling knock-knacks, souvenirs and soft drinks.

Among stalls around the temple walls was a small marquee selling local produce, manufactured in cottage industries also set up by the Tigers.

They know they cannot even visit the peninsula they claim to represent without fear of the assassination that claimed two of their colleagues. They have little constituency left and little influence or status, except that accorded to them by the Indian or Sri Lankan Governments.

Jail doors open for 500 in Sri Lanka

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka celebrated his 80th birthday yesterday by granting an amnesty to 500 prisoners.

The amnesty did not cover those held under emergency regulations, but Mr Lionel Bopape, a leader of the proscribed Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP), has been released.

The JVP launched an abortive insurrection against the Government in 1971 and, more recently, some members have been arrested. The Government alleges that the JVP, a party from the Sinhalese-dominated south, has links with Tamil guerrilla groups fighting government forces in the Northern and Eastern provinces.

There are moves by some Buddhist monks and the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, led by Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, to campaign against the Government's devolution proposals to solve the ethnic crisis.

Prince's wit a sales hit

The wit, wisdom and regal sense of timing of the Prince of Wales are best sellers in Japan.

Cassette tapes of speeches the Prince made during his visit with the Princess of Wales in May are selling at the rate of 4,000 a month - faster than any such specialist tape in the past.

Normal tapes of the speeches of President Kennedy, the works of Shakespeare, or a classic like Jane Eyre would go at the rate of about 3,000 over two years.

The favourite piece on the tape is the Prince's speech to the Diet, Japan's Parliament, which went down well because of the general air of informality, rarely encountered with their own royal family, and the way the Prince ventured into a single word of Japanese, *konichiwa* (good afternoon), with the pause for effect of a comedian.

World Bridge Champions survive

Chip Martel and Lov Stansby, defending champions of the open pairs title with Hugh Ross and Peter Pender, survived dramatically in round three of the knockout teams championship of the world bridge titles being played here.

With one board to play in their match against the Indonesian team, led by Felix Waluyan, the scores were tied. On the final board Martel, probably believing himself to be behind, overreached to a contract of four spades which was doubled and apparently certain to fail.

An unusual opening lead of a low club from ace and another gave the Americans their contract. Martel's team were runners-up in the event last played in the 1984 Olympiad.

With the three pools now reduced to 16 individual teams, the US has eight teams with France next with four teams.

Crackdown planned on Algarve foreigners

From Martha de la Cal Lisbon

The regional authorities on Portugal's Algarve coast are planning to crack down on illegal foreign residents - most of them British - who are working there without permits or legal residence and are not paying taxes.

Senior Cabrita Neto, civil governor of Faro, called a meeting on Monday of representatives of municipal governments and the departments of finance, labour, tourism, foreign residency and the police to discuss measures to remedy the situation.

Senior Neto said there were between 9,000 and 10,000 legal foreign residents, of whom more than half were British, but claimed there were three or four times that number there.

He said they were foreign investors, businessmen and workers who were there illegally and not registered. These illegal residents "do not comply in the least with Portuguese laws regarding labour and social security", he said.

"Investors are welcome and so are people who come to set up business in the Algarve, but they must obey Portuguese laws. Portugal is not a banana republic.

"Our membership of the EEC provides for people to circulate freely and establish themselves, but that does not mean the country loses its independence and its right to make laws."

The governor said that business licences would be remitted through the civil government with local authorities and a computer system would soon be installed.

"We are not going to expel anyone, but we will apply sanctions. It is not fair that Portuguese should be forced to obey the law while foreigners are not."

Foreigners are engaged in activities ranging from medicine, law, architecture, real estate, construction, and the bar and restaurant trade to being carpenters and swimming pool cleaners.

After a recent meeting of the District Medical Association, the association president, Senhor Fernando Mesalha, complained about foreign doctors "who are practising illegally".



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A candle they can't snuff out

THE TIMES PROFILE

JOSÉ DUARTE

Look closely into the face of José Napoleón Duarte and the marks of plastic surgery are visible on the tight skin of his cheekbones. Look at his hands, the big, capable hands of a trained engineer, and you see that he is missing the top joints on three fingers. The scars he carries serve as a grim reminder of the golden rule in the politics of El Salvador — never, ever ignore the views of the armed forces.

It is a measure, both of the 60-year-old president's determination and the army's power, that although the civil war peace talks set for the little town of Sesorri tomorrow appear to have been scuppered — mainly by the army's refusal to guarantee the safety of the rebels — he will nonetheless go unscathed to Sesorri as an act of faith in the peace process. The move is typical of the man.

Some 14 years ago, Duarte fought his first presidential election campaign against a candidate backed by the military. He was robbed of victory by the intervention of the Salvadorean high command. Dragged from refuge in a foreign embassy, he was severely tortured and bundled into exile.

It took cold courage to return to the maelstrom of Salvadorean politics at the end of the 1970s, even if by then Duarte was becoming recognized in Washington as the only democrat of any standing available. The high-ranking officers who had ordered his torture, laughing and taunting while his face was smashed in with rifle butts, were still very much in evidence and the right-wing death squads had Duarte in their sights.

Duarte seemed a tragic figure then, a decent man presiding over a junta whose troops and police killed and tortured with impunity. I met him once after a particularly appalling massacre of civilians. He was sitting in his garishly-decorated little palace beneath a signed photograph from Jimmy Carter in which Duarte's name was misspelled.

He seemed so beaten down by the numbing brutality all around. Here, we thought, was a Napoleón on the verge of final defeat. But Duarte is that uniquely resilient creature, the born politician, though there is still a certain vagueness, possibly deliberate, about his exact origins. The version he prefers casts him as the son of a poor country tailor who changed his fortunes by moving to the capital, where he made sweets. A winning ticket on the national lottery, it is said, financed a superior education for young José Napoleón, culminating in studies at Notre Dame College in the US.

His friends say, only half joking, that Duarte's quest for the presidency began the day in 1948 when he came home with a degree in civil engineering and an eye on the main chance. His priority was marriage, to the girl next door whose father



Close to the edge: Duarte holds a fragile centre against the violent extremes, and he has the scars to prove it

happened to be well-established in the construction business. Duarte became a partner, acquiring not only a degree of wealth but priceless public exposure by handling a succession of major contracts. The chance to break into politics arrived as the growing Salvadorean middle-class began searching for a voice of its own (until then, the country had been run almost as a family business by the landed oligarchs and their private armies). In the early 1960s, Duarte helped found, and became general secretary of, the Christian Democrat party. Some observers say this is when he first exhibited the tell-tale signs of a man on the make: a fondness for the sound of his own voice, the puffed-out chest and lordly manner. Duarte's next step was to become mayor of San Salvador, the capital, in 1964. It was the first of three consecutive terms stretching through to the end of the decade. It gave "Napó" the national platform he needed. Energetic, imaginative, self-promoting, he brought the run-down capital its first efficient administration, providing everything from new markets and street lighting to im-

BIOGRAPHY

- 1928: November, born Chalatenango province
- 1948: Graduated University of Notre Dame, Indiana
- 1948: Married Inés Durán; they have six children
- 1962: Co-founder of Christian Democrats of El Salvador
- 1964-70: Mayor of San Salvador
- 1972: Elected president of El Salvador but overthrown in coup. Exiled to Venezuela
- 1979: Invited to serve on new junta
- 1980-82: President (unelected) of El Salvador
- 1984: June, elected president

of the day, besides a broken body, was to be seven years of exile in Venezuela. But even then, politics were not entirely put aside. Liberal groups in the US brought Duarte to Washington to help rouse American opinion against the unsavoury dictatorships in El Salvador and elsewhere in "Uncle Sam's backyard". The El Salvador to which Duarte and his family eventually returned was radically changed. The guerrillas had taken to the hills, marking the beginning of today's fully-fledged civil war. The triumph of the left-wing Sandinistas over the US-backed Somoza regime in nearby Nicaragua had finally focussed Washington's attention on the region. In José Napoleón Duarte, the Carter and Reagan administrations saw a clean-handed, centrist figure who could be the means of selling expensive and controversial policies to Congress. Nobody understood better than Duarte the risks, personal and political, involved in heading the uneasy junta of reformist colonels and apprehensive civilians. Disaster struck almost immediately, with the

We'll break for a commercial

Television advertising has, in its 30 years, revolutionized how we look at the small screen, says Andrew Billen

As Brian Henry, advertisement manager of the now-defunct London evening newspaper, *The Star*, left his office on September 22, 1955, he already knew that agencies were considering cancelling space. The reason was the allure of a lingering 60-second shot of a tube of Gibbs' SR toothpaste frozen in a block of ice, to be broadcast at 8.12 that evening — the first advertisement on the first night of Britain's first commercial television company, Associated-Rediffusion. Within a week, he says, people were whistling the Murray Mint jingle. Five years later, Henry was Rediffusion's controller of advertising and *The Star* had folded.

On Monday, 31 years on, Henry stars in a commercial for his own book, *British Television Advertising: The First 30 Years*.

As early as the 1960s, the Independent Television



Britain's instant television family: Katy and the Oxo brood

Authority took off Gilbert Harding's endorsement of indigestion tablets and the government banned cigarette commercials. Now, former Saatchi chairman Tim Bell points out in the book that his favourite campaign, "Heineken refreshes the parts", could not be launched because the IBA does not allow the implication that alcohol has beneficial properties. Similar reasoning would preclude the "Happiness is a cigar called Hamlet" series, "the closest thing to promoting a drug there has ever been... The only reason it is still allowed to run is that it was done 15 years ago".

Henry records how Advertising Association members, meeting to draw up their own voluntary code in 1961, sniffily spurned his suggestion of a pre-publication check on commercials before broadcast. But slowly print advertising, under the Advertising Standards Authority, has approached television's fussy standards of truthfulness. He admits, however, that with satellites beaming commercials over whole continents, deregulation is inevitable.

In matters of taste, television advertising has followed real life at a discreet distance. In 1957 the first chairman of the IBA's advertising committee, with a naively southern view of national eating habits, forbade lavatory paper advertising until 9.30pm, when people would have finished their dinners. Like the Wind-

mill girls, models wearing foundation garments were not allowed to show any movement if their flesh was visible. But the IBA chairman, Lord Aylestone, long ago out-stared Freudian critics of Cadbury's Flake advert: "If some people care to make a chocolate bar commercial into a blue movie that's their problem."

In other ways, the commercial has led. The Ridley Scott Hovis commercial of a boy wheeling his bicycle up a cobbled hill reinvented the street so that visitors to Shaftesbury wonder why the locals do not speak with flattened northern vowels. What is more, Scott's production values demanded because each frame would be shown 100 times, infected the rest of television. Who can remember now if the misty hues of Granada's *Country Matters* imitated or preceded those of Hovis? David Bernstein, three

Taking the cocaine war to work

The world of industrial chemicals has become the latest — and, on the face of it, one of the most unlikely — battlefields in the American campaign against drug trafficking. But strategies such as Operation Chemcon may prove as vital in combating the drug trade as all the armies of police and federal agents who regularly win the attention of the television cameras. Operation Chemcon is the latest in a series of American plans designed to strike not at the drug farmer, the dealer or the user but at the refiner and manufacturer. The aim is to monitor the supply of the chemicals — in this case, ether — used to produce drugs — in this instance, cocaine. The Americans are understood to have tried a variation on this theme in the 1960s, when they attempted to identify the heroin laboratories in Marseilles operated by the French Connection gangs. The plan was to trace acetic acid concentrations — the chemical

is used in the refinement of heroin — through the city's sewers in the hope that this would lead them to the laboratories. Unfortunately the Americans failed to take into account another use of the acid — cooking, where it is known as vinegar. Many of the trails led them to restaurants. But a similar programme was successful a few years later in halting the production of LSD by underground laboratories. The programme was widened to include the international chemical market, and the evidence gathered was later used to convict several major American LSD chemists. The Drug Enforcement Agency in Washington believes that Chemcon is already making headway against cocaine, which has become the major area of growth in the illicit drugs market. Earlier this year a senior DEA official described to a Senate hearing how Chemcon has been used to

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1057

ACROSS

- Conservative person (5,3,3)
- Bird (3)
- Wealthy ruler (9)
- Shopping square (5)
- Tack maker (7)
- US lorry driver (7)
- Properly done (5)
- Miscellany (9)
- Man-of-war salute (3)
- Mutual sympathy (6,7)

DOWN

- Dormant (6)
- Sensitive yellow shrub (6)
- Town (8)
- Results (6)
- Through (4)
- Totally unprincipled (6)
- Film sphere (6)
- Danish bronze horn (5)
- Deprived (8)
- Aircraftman (3)
- Invasor's hunt (3,3)
- Indescribable (6)
- Thin out (6)
- Positive clay (6)
- Punish in retaliation (6)
- Wiltshire (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1056

ACROSS: 1 Vison 4 Selenia 7 Lane 8 Claw back 9 Corveta 13 Cap 16 Knight Templar 17 Tom 19 Bushok 24 Stampede 25 Iron 26 Bolted 27 Tremor

DOWN: 1 Vake 2 Nomenium 3 Niche 4 Suvae 5 Lobe 6 Mecca 10 Sahib 11 Otus 12 Tamil 13 Colostrom 14 Port 15 Sui 18 Oundo 20 Amend 21 Inept 22 Emit 23 Poor

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حضانة الأنثى

كلمات الأهل

BOOKS

Asses on whom every one has sat but a man

Everyone remembers the fact that Queen Elizabeth pretended to forget, but perhaps more instructive is the spectacle of her in old age as she "stamps her feet at ill news, and thrusts her rusty sword at times into the arras in great rage". Both anecdotes are reprinted in this new anthology, or bestiary, of political life; here also is James I, "his fingers ever ... fiddling about his cod-piece"; and Gladstone with his Cabinet: "Excited men round table - pale old croupier in midst with passion seething in his face ...". Each small scene is worthy of the more colourful moments of Dante's *Inferno*, and the emblematic significance of each one confirms Paul Johnson's claim, in his introduction, that "anecdotes are a valuable source of historical truth". That is why political cartoonists can get to the heart of a matter which hours of wading through *Hansard* will not reveal. And that is why, also, good historical novelists are just as likely to be right as academic historians.

People need stories in order to understand the world. Of course, most contemporary political journalism seems already to be couched in the form of bad fiction, and the "Daylight" or "Insight" features in the Sunday newspapers can hardly be said to add to the store of general knowledge or even general entertainment, but the anecdotes preserved in this collection possess an additional homiletic quality. They are not so much stories as parables and, like parables, they offer the comforting suggestion that the world can be understood in entirely human terms. No one is going to pore over the collected axioms of Malthus, Ricardo, or Marx except to understand the concept of historical relativity; but the recorded lives of other human beings exercise a fascination equivalent only to their significance.

And how could it be otherwise? There is a theory, greatly favoured by left-wing politicians, that "personalities" are an irrelevance in political affairs - that they are an intrusion largely manufactured by the "media" for their own purposes. But one only has to read in this anthology of Lord Salisbury's attempts to construct a working telephone, or of Asquith's drunkenness, to realize the absurdity of those who believe that politics is a matter solely of laws or principles that no mere "personality" can alter. There is a purblind puritanism that shrinks from the contamination of human contact in order safely to promulgate some theory of human behaviour. And anyone who dismisses human muddle and human tem-

Peter Ackroyd on tall stories that show that even politics is human

THE OXFORD BOOK OF POLITICAL ANECDOTES Edited by Paul Johnson Oxford, £10.95

perament as inessential aspects of the political process is quite likely to be among the first to put those same human beings in front of a firing squad.

But perhaps such radicals are really only trying to defend their own radicalism, since to suggest the pre-eminence of human motive and human temperament in affairs of state is implicitly to take up a conservative position. The vituperative quarrel between Fox and Burke, so memorably recounted in this book, could find its parallel in any century; the mental decay of Ramsay MacDonald, equally memorably described, might be visited on any politician (and probably has been). In any case, an anthology which begins with Richard III and ends with James Callaghan can hardly be said to be a testament to human progress. There is none; there is only change. That is why Paul Johnson is right to emphasize the tone of voice, the manner, the sheer presence of politicians as vital elements in their political role: the point of this book is to confirm that such apparently "small" things can change the course of a war or the fate of a nation.

Here, for example, is Lloyd George on Winston Churchill: "He would make a drum out of the skin of his mother in order to sound his own praises." And on Sir John Simon: "He has sat on the fence so long the iron has entered his soul." And here is Disraeli's unanswerable comment that "... courage is the rarest of all qualities to be found in public men."

Of course there are certain changes to be discerned in the course of the survey that covers almost five hundred years of political activity - not the least significant of which is the change in the language itself. In the first pages of this book conversation and analysis seem rich, embroidered, vigorous; but by the time we reach the etiolated phrases issuing from the lips of Harold Wilson's ministers in 1969

the language has become strained and restrained. Great scenes from the House of Commons or from Whitehall are supplanted, in the last pages of the anthology, either by dreary episodes in newspaper offices, or by equally dreary stories from the voluminous memoirs of Richard Crossman. Instead of the prose of Charendon or Overbury we have the diaries or autobiographies of retired politicians, who rarely, if ever, manage to treat the language with anything other than the contempt born of ignorance. If there has been any debasement in English politics, it is the debasement of English itself.

As a result some of these entries are weak: it is a mistake to trust anything written by George Augustus Sala, for example; and the anecdotes about Winston Churchill are not as amusing as Paul Johnson imagines. But on the whole this is a collection as fascinating as it is instructive; it may indirectly chart the declining quality both of our politicians and our political theorists, but it also provides a commentary upon some of the more interesting and permanent human emotions.



Politicians in descending order of dubious merit: Queen Elizabeth II, Gladstone, Disraeli, Asquith, Ramsay MacDonald, Lloyd George, Churchill, Macmillan, Crossman, Callaghan, Healey, Wilson

The sky's the limit

NOVEL of the week

Victoria Glendinning

STARING AT THE SUN By Julian Barnes Cape, £9.95

In 1941 a fighter pilot flying home at dawn sees the sun rise over the Channel. He loses height rapidly, and the horizon blocks the sun out again - so he sees it rise for a second time, "an ordinary miracle that he would never forget". Seeing the sun rise twice is the central image of this story; its heroine is Jean, an ignorant country girl in whose home the pilot is billeted after being grounded for alleged cowardice.

Julian Barnes evidently likes women. (Not many men do.) Jean seems stupid because she is silenced by the way men go on; Uncle Leslie's incomprehensible facetiousness, her father's know-all megalomaniac monologues. She is intrigued by the pilot, who confides in her his terror of flying; but marries a complacent policeman and tries to understand the world as interpreted by her melancholy son Gregory. What is a good life? What is a good death? What is courage? Is it braver to fight, or to run away like the pilot? Is it braver to endure, or to escape like Jean? Or to commit suicide? Is it braver to believe in God, or not to believe in God?

about her battles with a recalcitrant Dutch cap. (Julian Barnes not only likes women, he knows them.) Now the narrative takes off with Jean into the upper air, and asks: what is life? Although Jean has "discarded stupidity", she is insufficiently articulate for the game this author wants to play; so some of the excess baggage of speculation is carried by her melancholy son Gregory. What is a good life? What is a good death? What is courage? Is it braver to fight, or to run away like the pilot? Is it braver to endure, or to escape like Jean? Or to commit suicide? Is it braver to believe in God, or not to believe in God?

It is by now 1998, and Gregory has access to the state-run computer which contains "the whole of human knowledge". Computers, like ancient philosophers, work on a question-and-answer basis. "What is a real question? One to which someone can give an answer... The problem is not what is the answer but what is the question." This must be the first literary novel in which a computer - and this one is very lively - is a leading character.

Staring at the Sun ends with aged mother and elderly son up in an aeroplane. They have seen the sun go down, and the plane is rising steeply. We know what will happen; and the after-life may be another "ordinary miracle", like seeing the sun set twice. One question they have not asked is "Whither the novel?" As in *Flaubert's Parrot*, Julian Barnes is using humorous fictional narrative (which he is very good at) just as a runway to something else. The lift-off, here, is a little jerky, but books like his suggest the way that novels can be used; and, as *Novels* said to Jean when she was a little girl, "The sky's the limit."

Wine bore as action man

THRILLERS Tim Heald

A DANGEROUS AGE By Martin Sylvester Michael Joseph, £10.95

Mr Sylvester, who "divides his time" (could we please have a moratorium on this tiresome blurb-writer's cliché?) between Oxford and a farmhouse in Bordeaux is a former architect who gave up his profession in order to "take up writing full time." A pity this is not more widely practiced, especially in reverse. If more full time writers gave up in order to become architects, it would be of great benefit to both professions. Anyway this is Mr Sylvester's first effort, although we are told that he is well into a second using the same hero, someone called Warner.

I would have second thoughts about this if I were him, because Warner is pretty unsufferable and, as the boss of a company called William Warner Wines, not a man to whom enthralling things are going to happen every day of the week, without the author having to use an unnecessary amount of artistic licence. Mr Warner says of his company's title, "Very mellifluous I opine", which gives you a fair idea of the sort of person he is. We are asked to believe at the beginning of the book that Mr Warner goes for a walk on

Dartmoor after lunch, is shot at, watches his attacker drown in a bog, and goes home to dinner where he says nothing about these adventures because he does not wish to "wreck the evening to no purpose." I personally find this less than plausible. It is breezily written: Mr Sylvester may just be a writer rather than an architect. He should do something about his cockney accents.

Only the Dead Know Brooklyn, by Thomas Boule (Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95). Mr Boule writes with a certain snappy authority as befits a man who has lectured in English for the best part of twenty years. He lectures in Brooklyn and he's good on Brooklyn and Brooklyn academia. Professor Fletcher Carruthers III is a character of

rare promise. So, in a different way, is the cop, bubbling with resentment at "Limousine Liberals."

My problem with what is, in a number of respects, a very accomplished piece of work is that by the standards of contemporary literature - from school to pseud - I evidently have a low disgust threshold.

Black Market, by James Patterson (Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95).

Whatever their faults both these first two books give the impression of having been written rather than put together as a piece of purely commercial packaging. By contrast, James Patterson, a senior New York advertising executive writes like one. Muzak in print. His words read like copy rather than prose. There is a marvellous instance on page 115. It is a description of lunch at Christ Cella on East 46th Street. It ends on a supposedly dramatic note: "Was Green Band a powerful international cartel of the richest investment bankers and businessmen in the world?"

True love behind the bloodiness of family life

FICTION

Isabel Raphael

ONLY YESTERDAY By Julian Gloag Hamish Hamilton, £9.95

THE CHRISTENING By Susanna Mitchell John Murray, £9.95

LAPSING By Jill Paton Walsh Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £9.95

Julian Gloag has established himself as a writer of intricate and sophisticated thrillers. *Only Yesterday* marks a new departure. As readable as Gloag's earlier work, there is virtually no plot in this gentle novel, which covers three days spent together by three generations of a family.

The reunion is a chance one. Rupert Darley, finding in middle age the courage to leave a dead-end marriage and a dead-end job, returns to his childhood home to break the news to his parents. An only child, he has never quite lived up to the example or the

expectations of his architect father, Oliver, or the gentler hopes of his mother, May. Both are ailing as well as old, and have summoned, this very week-end, Rupert's daughter Miranda in order to entrust her, in their different ways, with their future. Occasional strangers stray into the family circle, but they are intruders who barely disturb the surface of a deep pool of affection that envelops the four main characters. There is not a trace of sentimentality here, but plenty of sentiment, expressed in that desultory shorthand conversation that only families employ.

The three days are carefully charted. The first brings to Rupert and his parents the familiar reassurance that everything is still the same, with the concomitant despair that nothing has changed. Good intentions lead to frustration and misunderstanding; only the casualness of youth, as Miranda fails to arrive when expected, briefly unites the older generations. When she does appear, she brings with her the freshness and stamina to take on the confidences and responsibilities urged upon her, maturing in the process until the distances of age and custom blur. By the third day new understanding and respect have drawn the four together, to face with equanimity the uncertain future.

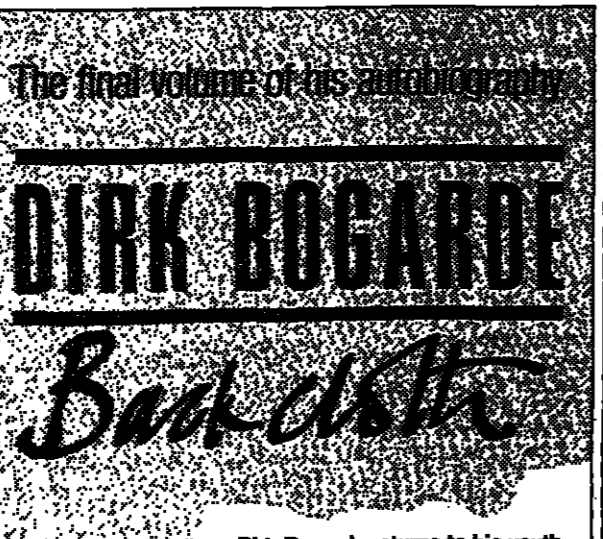
This is a novel of rare quality. Rupert, Miranda, Oliver, and May are extraordinarily real, and I was loath to leave their company. The whole book has been whittled down to exactly the right proportions of humour and sadness, of the commonplace and the eccentric. A delight to read, to be cherished.

In comparison *The Christening* by Susanna Mitchell seems heavy and overblown. The infant to be christened is the offspring of a social and temperamental misalliance between Victor, a sober country gentleman in middle life, and Miriam, a lightweight actress half his age. Their choice of godparents reveals a nostalgia for the past that each has turned away from: Justin, the dynamic but penniless dancer, and plain, neurotic Dorothy who has worshipped Victor since their shared childhood. Miriam, who appears so confidently in command of the situation, finds

herself trapped in a fate contrived by this opposing pair. Susanna Mitchell writes shrewdly and imaginatively. She has a neat plot, a deft touch with dialogue, and several moving and memorable passages where she handles the symbolism delicately. But the fine perceptions of her characters are directed so strongly upon themselves that they become blind to each other's feelings, and to the realities of their lives. What is no doubt intended as simplicity comes over as stupidity, leaving a nasty sense that everyone ends up with just deserts. The book as a whole is an uneasy mixture of Gothic passion and contemporary chic, badly needing to be cut down to size.

When a children's writer turns to adult novels the result can be highly satisfactory: witness Penelope Lively. *Lapsing* is Jill Paton Walsh's first venture into this field, and I hope it will not be her last. She writes with limpid simplicity and directness, virtues most appreciated by young readers, and not to be undervalued elsewhere, revealing the follies of youth with cool wisdom untainted by condescension. Her setting is Oxford in the 1950s, a world of irrecoverable innocence bred by an ignorance inconceivable today. "In the '50s people did not know they were in the '50s, they did not know, that is, that the '60s were coming next. They didn't know that they would be almost instantly antediluvian, and that their generation were the last of the frumps, not the first of the free." A lost world indeed, not to be regretted, but irresistibly evoked.

Tessa, a questing, intelligent Catholic undergraduate, struggles within the faith to achieve "the life of proven innocence" of a faithful bride, although she is in truth unacquainted with the temptations of the flesh and the devil. Mistaking the nature of love, she enters a strange ménage à trois, tying herself in a Gordian knot that can only be cut, not unraveled, to give her emotional and intellectual freedom. A most auspicious début.



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THE TIMES DIARY

Owen does it again

David Owen is up to his old media tricks again. During last year's SDP conference I reported how he had successfully bludgeoned the producer of Radio Four's The World at One into making him the lead item by threatening to walk out of the studio.

Hand it to her

Meanwhile Owen tells me how impressed he was by one eccentric example of enterprise at Harrogate this week. Attending a medieval banquet in the grounds of Ripley Castle, two women members went off to find the Ladies. As one waited for the other outside, she was surprised to have a 20 p piece pressed into her hand by an emerging diner obviously familiar with continental practices.

Yorkshire TV managing director Paul Fox chose the wrong Harrogate hotel to hold his company's reception for SDP delegates. Such are reception difficulties in the heart of YTV's transmission area that sets in the Old Swan are turned to Tyne Tees.

Some crack

The least appreciated moment from Tuesday night's movie was surely unfunny SDP parody was the sketch alluding to the Chippenham SDP chairman who quit his council seat after being charged with permitting the production of cocaine at his house. The skit showed an SDP supporter sniffing and weighing bags of white powder before throwing them into a collection bucket with the words "These should help party funds".

Sideshow

Among the outside events prominently advertised in the foyer of the Harrogate Centre, where the SDP conference is taking place, is a performance of Much Ado About Nothing. As the programme for the RSC production points out, this contains not one, but two love affairs.

BARRY FANTONI



With the summer Britain's had, no wonder they left coal off the list!

O'Brien's view

I am glad to report that Conor Cruise O'Brien has resisted pressure from the Irish anti-apartheid movement to cancel a trip to South Africa. Now at Cape Town University for a five-week lecture stint on the politics of siege in Northern Ireland, Israel and South Africa, he told me: "I'm totally unrepentant. I support blanket sanctions but not selective ones, especially against an institution such as this which doesn't practise apartheid."

Writ small

Amadou Mahtar M'bow, the director general of Unesco, has decided to break a self-imposed rule - never to sue over anything printed about him. Word reaches me from Paris that Sir James Goldsmith's L'Espresso has aroused his ire by publishing what he considers to be a libel against him and failing to publish the "factual correctives" which he has submitted.

Timely break

The precarious 74 majority of Tory MP Jeremy Hanley at Richmond and Barnes has concentrated his mind sufficiently to keep his nose to the grindstone. He and his wife, Verna, have just taken their first holiday abroad since he won the marginal seat three years ago and, judging by their condition on departure, the vacation was long overdue. His wife arrived at the airport in an ambulance after an emergency operation for appendicitis, while Hanley, turned up on crutches with a leg in plaster after a tennis accident.

PHS

Hands off these schools

by Stuart Sexton

Kenneth Baker, the Education Secretary, is expected to announce new initiatives when he winds up the education debate at the Conservative conference in Bournemouth next month. Indeed we have already seen the trailers in the press.

A near certainty is 20 or so new technical schools, especially in the inner cities; another likely proposal is for a new form of direct grant; and a third might well be some new and better primary schools. All will be funded by Whitehall and not - like the rest of the state system - by local authorities.

First, a word of warning. It is one thing for the Department of Education and Science to pay directly on a per capita basis for the education of pupils at such schools. It is quite another for it to exercise detailed control over them.

There is no intrinsic reason why state funded schools have to be state run schools. Just because the taxpayer and ratepayer find the money, it does not follow that government, local or central, is best fitted to own and manage the

schools or to get value for money. By all means make a direct grant to a charitable trust or a group of parents to establish and run a new technical school, or a new primary school, or any other type of school of quality in Liverpool or anywhere else that they are badly needed, but to try to run them from Whitehall would kill the very idea of direct grant funding.

The technical schools now envisaged would become centres of excellence in technology; since they would inevitably be oversubscribed, children would be selected not on mere zoning, as with the comprehensives, but on aptitude and motivation to benefit from the specialist education offered. Most, if not all, would be established in areas of high need such as the inner cities of Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham.

In theory, the local authorities in those cities could establish such schools, but as they have not already done so, central government has to do it for them. A second and separate proposal

is for new schools of high quality, both primary and secondary, to be established throughout the country, but again particularly in areas of greatest need, by the mechanism of re-establishing direct grant funding. This would be done on a per pupil per year basis. If we suppose the direct grant were to be £1,500 per pupil per year then a school of 1,000 pupils would receive £1.5 million for that year.

The direct grant (or grant aided, or government maintained) school must be independently owned and run, free from all local and central bureaucracy and politics. It must be managed in every sense like a fully independent school, but instead of charging fees, it would be part of the state provision of education.

The great advantage is that the independent management within a clearly defined budget can produce schools of very high quality. They would not be managed by Labour or Conservatives and would not be plagued with bureaucracy, local or central. Be-

cause they would depend on the number of children for funding, they would have every incentive to strive for excellence. Direct grant spells better education at, or even below, the cost of the local authority schools.

The third proposal is that we need more and better primary schools, especially in the inner cities. In all three proposals "new" schools need not be in new buildings; there are plenty of good redundant school buildings to be brought back into use.

Many of these three proposals together and Baker can announce that he will use existing powers to fund independently owned and managed schools by direct grant, and that in doing so he is going to give priority to funding newly established schools of high quality, especially in the most deprived areas. In them all, the three Rs will be properly taught.

If he does that the cheers will come not only from the Tory faithful but from parents all over the country. The author was an adviser to Sir Keith Joseph, when Education Secretary.

Diana Geddes on a Lebanon dimension to the Paris bombing wave

Terrorism's other target

Ten dead and more than 250 injured, many maimed for life. That is the toll of the 12 bomb attacks carried out in Paris and on the Paris-Lyon express train in the past nine months by the terrorist group calling itself the Committee for Solidarity with Middle-Eastern and Arab Political Prisoners (CSPPA). The bombing campaign is likely to intensify.

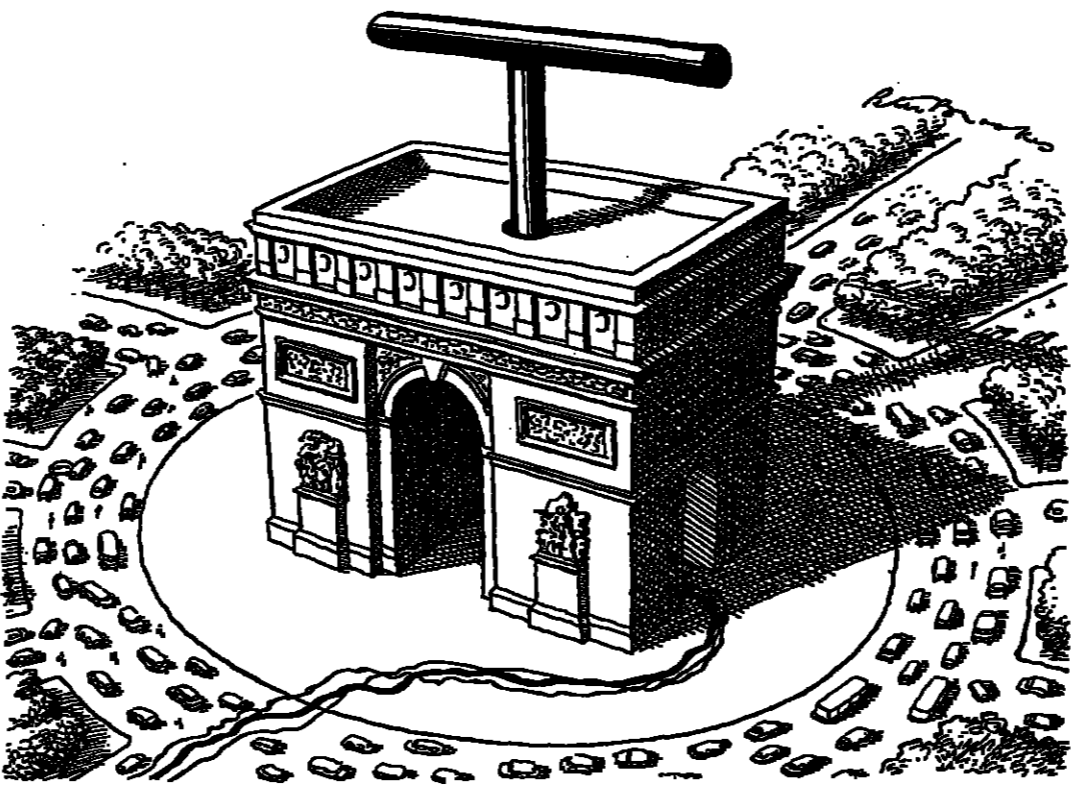
Unlike most terrorist organizations, the CSPPA's demands are clear and precise. Release our three Arab comrades from your jails. The three in question are Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, presumed leader of the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Factions (FARL); Annis Naccache, Lebanese Palestinian head of the commando which tried to assassinate Chapour Bakhtiar, the last Iranian prime minister under the Shah in Paris in 1980, killing two; and Varadjian Garbidjian, Syrian-born head of the Armenian commando which attacked Orly airport in July 1983, killing seven and injuring 55.

But why should any one group be willing to go to such lengths to secure the release of such a strange grab-bag of people with such disparate aims and ideologies? Who is behind the CSPPA? Investigators are increasingly convinced that the group is simply a front for the FARL, and that it is the release of only one person which they really want - Abdallah - with the other two thrown in partly to confuse, partly as potential bargaining counters, and partly as a gesture to the pro-Iranian, Lebanese-based Islamic Jihad, to which Naccache appears to be connected, and the Syrian-backed Secret Armenian Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), of which Garbidjian is a leading member.

The FARL was founded in 1980 by Abdallah, a pro-Palestinian, Marxist, Maronite Christian from a tiny Christian enclave in the north of Lebanon. The group, consisting largely of members of Abdallah's own extended family, totals, according to some, no more than a couple of dozen members; according to others, a couple of hundred. Its aims appear vague, but as is clear from the targets chosen for its attacks in France and elsewhere in Europe, it is motivated by a hatred of Israel and American "imperialism". It has known links with other extreme-left terrorist groups, notably the Italian Red Brigades, with whom Abdallah trained in 1979, the French Action Directe, and the German Red Army Faction.

In October 1984, Abdallah was arrested after walking into a police station in Lyons, posing as an Algerian, to ask for police protection because he feared he was being pursued by the Mossad, the Israeli secret service, who allegedly wanted to kill him. The French police soon discovered Abdallah's connection with the FARL, and he was arrested and charged with possession of forged papers and membership of an "association of criminals" - nothing particularly dramatic.

Five months later, on March 23, 1985, Gilles Peyrolles, director of the French cultural institute in the



Lebanese city of Tripoli, was kidnapped by Marxist Maronites, later identified as FARL members, including two of Abdallah's own brothers, who immediately started negotiations with the French Socialist government of the day for Peyrolles' release in return for that of Abdallah.

The deal was clinched and a few days later Peyrolles was set free. But the French reneged, having meanwhile discovered a cache of arms in Abdallah's former Paris flat. Among them were guns believed to have been used in the assassination in Paris in 1982 of Charles Ray, military attaché at the US embassy, and of Yacov Barsamantev, an Israeli diplomat. Until then, the French had not appreciated how big a fish they had caught.

Abdallah's arrest, together with the arrest in Italy a couple of months earlier of two other leading FARL members, seemed to put a stop to the group's terrorist activities until the appearance early this year of the previously unknown CSPPA. It is now thought to be simply the FARL under a new guise, but possibly including elements of a tactical alliance with the Islamic Jihad, the group holding at least three French hostages in Lebanon and part of the larger Hezbollah, the Shia Muslim fundamentalist party which wants to get the French UN peace-keeping force out of southern Lebanon. So an already complicated picture becomes even more complex.

When Jacques Chirac, leader of the right-wing Gaullist party, came to power in March this year, his first act as prime minister was to visit the shopping arcade on the Champs Elysees where, a few hours after his inauguration, a bomb had gone off killing two and injuring 28. The attack was subsequently claimed by the CSPPA.

Then followed a lull, during which Abdallah was brought to trial and sentenced to a mere four years imprisonment. His two, less

important, FARL colleagues in Italy had been sentenced to 15 and 16 years. Why had Abdallah got off so lightly? Having been in prison since October 1984, it would mean that he would become eligible for conditional release on October 24, 1986, having served half his sentence. The Americans were furious and immediately brought a civil action against Abdallah for complicity in the murder of Charles Ray.

It now seems certain that some kind of deal was being envisaged by the Chirac government involving the release of Abdallah. Perhaps it was a suspected change of heart on the part of the French or perhaps the FARL felt the negotiations were taking too long. In any event, the bombings started again at the beginning of this month with even greater ferocity than before - two dead and more than 100 injured within eight days. All the attacks were claimed by the CSPPA. They say the Elysees Palace is next on their list.

However tempted the government may have been in the past to secure a halt to the bombings by releasing Abdallah, that is now out of the question. It would be an unforgivable display of weakness by a party which came to power on a tough law-and-order ticket. The public, for the moment, are equally determined that there must be no deal.

Furthermore, Abdallah's release is no longer wholly in the hands of the government. The murder charges are still pending and there is now also an extradition request from Italy, which wants Abdallah in connection with the assassination in Rome in February 1984 of Leonardo Hunt, the American general commanding the international observer force in Sinai. So why are the terrorists continuing with what they must realize are now counter-productive attacks? Is there, after all, a greater link than has been suspected or admitted with France's policy in the Middle East, perhaps

concerning its peace-keeping force in southern Lebanon, which has come under attack in the last few weeks?

On the face of it, an alliance between Marxist Christian Maronites and right-wing Muslim fundamentalist members of the Hezbollah seems improbable. On the other hand, both have an interest in seeing the French forces removed from southern Lebanon, where they are increasingly seen as supporting the Israeli occupiers rather than monitoring the Israelis' departure, which was their original brief.

The CSPPA has made no specific demands for France to pull out of Lebanon. On the other hand, last week it accused France of aligning its policies with those of the "American imperialist aggressors", adding that there would be "no peace on earth, nor rest for the peoples of the world, nor security for the US and Europe, so long as our people are not able to enjoy peace, tranquility and security."

It has been suggested that France has only itself to blame for its plight because of its long and close involvement in Lebanon and the Middle East generally. That is not strictly true. The three terrorists in question have all been convicted for attacks which had nothing directly to do with France or French policy in the Middle East. France just happened to provide a convenient territory for international terrorists to settle their scores with other foreigners.

If, on the other hand, the CSPPA/FARL does indeed have links with the Islamic Jihad/Hezbollah, then we may not see an end to the bombings until France withdraws its remaining troops from Lebanon, and some in the government would like to see that to happen soon. But until the French police actually capture one of the terrorists and extract from him the information they require, all hypotheses remain open.

Austria's new brownshirt nationalist

Vienna The emergence of Jörg Haider as leader of the Austrian Freedom Party at the weekend has not only ended the three-year-old Socialist-Freedom Party coalition; it is a turning point in Austrian politics in a broader sense.

For the first time since Bruno Kreisky's resignation as chancellor in 1983, a gifted orator with subtle rhetoric is firmly installed on the political stage. After the scandals of the last three years, in which a variety of Austrian politicians vied with one another for the leading part in what seemed a non-stop opera buffa, Haider cuts a figure of vaulting ambition linked with considerable political acumen. Were he a member of any other group but the Freedom Party, this would be a most welcome development, but his support comes from nationalist elements which, as the Waldheim affair all too vividly illustrated, still exist in Austria.

The Freedom Party was founded by liberals after the

Second World War but is now more right-wing than its name might suggest. It has had a controversial history. From the beginning it attracted many former Nazi sympathizers who, in the immediate postwar years, were debarred from membership of either the Socialist or the conservative People's parties. Its former chief whip, Friedrich Peter, was at the centre of a controversy a few years ago when it emerged that he had been an SS officer during the war engaged in civilian reprisals behind the Russian lines. He remains an active member of the party and his wartime career is by no means unique among its older members.

Haider, who is only in his late thirties, is too young to have had any direct association with the Wehrmacht. But like many of his contemporaries in the party, he has not been slow to manifest sympathy for the extreme right-wing views of its nationalists. The former defence minister, Friedrich Frischenschlager, like

Haider a rising star in the party, saw nothing untoward when, two years ago, he personally welcomed a convicted Nazi war criminal on his repatriation to Austria.

Haider, significantly, was the most outspoken defender of the minister's action, referring to the war criminal Walter Reder, who had been responsible for ordering the massacre at Marzabotto in Italy, as "an Austrian soldier who had done his duty". In Carinthia, the most right-wing and nationalist part of Austria, this kind of response went down well and, helped by the brown Carinthian provincial costume which he invariably wears, resulted in a landslide victory for Haider in local elections last year.

Such opportunism also knew how to exploit the German-speaking Carinthians' paranoia of the Slovene minority in the province. When the neo-Nazi Carinthian Fatherland Front proposed the segregation of Slovene and German speaking children it was Haider who supported them, turn-

ing the issue to his electoral advantage.

One of the wealthiest men in Austria, fond of giving press conferences at 7 am and exhibiting a trimness of figure virtually unknown among Austrian politicians, he is, like Austria's chancellor of three months standing, Franz Vranitzky, the representative of a new breed of Austrian politicians. They are more intelligent, more ambitious and without doubt more competent.

In comparison, Haider's predecessor, Norbert Steger, cut a pathetic figure of ineptitude. Once he admitted to a journalist that he did not understand the word détente. The scandals of the last few years cannot be repeated. The observer of the Austrian political scene today can only echo Frederick the Great's remarks when faced with a similar wind of change at the beginning of the Seven Years War: "These are no longer the same old Austrians."

Richard Bassett

Ronald Butt

So where's the big idea?

More people are now alienated from both the Conservative and Labour parties than at any time since 1974, and very many of them are inclined to vote for the Alliance as a new force in politics. But they will be reluctant to do so if there seems to be a serious risk that the result will be to let in the party, whether Tory or Labour, which they dislike most.

What would be most likely to persuade them to take the risk would be if the Alliance offered a genuinely new and persuasive political idea for a changing society. That is essential for any new party to get off the ground and it is what socialism represented when Labour replaced the Liberals earlier in the century.

But the more one examines what has been on display at Harrogate this week, the plainer it seems that there is no such new idea, unless one accepts as such "anti-party party".

On Monday, he told the SDP not to think that it was a "right, right little party uniquely anointed and armed with God's truth." Since he is a dedicated believer in a merger with the Liberals, his remarks were taken as a coded rebuke to David Owen. Asked by Robin Day whether a rebuke was intended, Jenkins - who could have simply said "no" - replied that if he had wanted to rebuke Owen he would have done it direct. He then inveighed against the old politicians' habit of looking at their own party as standing in full sunlight and their opponents as wholly benighted (which is standard Alliance rhetoric used by Owen too) and went on to reduce the idea to absurdity.

The business of the Alliance (as an "anti-party party") was, he said, to "break the mould", not to replace a rigid two-party system with a rigid three-party system. Yet he insisted that the Alliance must be permanent, and if this isn't creating a rigid three-party structure (Owen at least contemplates four parties) what is it? Jenkins then described his essential aim as being to "upset Dicey" and the constitutional idea of the sovereignty of the Crown in Parliament as determined by votes in Parliament.

Instead, he wants a system of judicial review and obedience to the Strasbourg code of human rights. But subordinating Parliament to the say-so of judges acting in the generalities of a code is an odd notion of representative democracy and hardly looks like riveting the electorate.

The truth is that the SDP (or the Alliance) is an ordinary party like any other, and it needs a new idea more substantial than its appeal against the extremism of the other parties. Such a new idea is lacking. Far from breaking the mould, its policies are the mould; the old mould of the late Sixties which was first destroyed by Labour

extremists and which Mrs Thatcher is trying to replace with a non-socialist alternative which is popular and therefore durable. Even Neil Kinnock is offering something new, a version of socialism which he hopes would be irreversible.

Two crucial Alliance policies illustrate the point. First, it seeks a formal incomes policy by offering tax incentives to profit sharing and pay linked to productivity, and marries it with a counter-inflation tax to take away any wage increases beyond a general norm, an idea examined by the Treasury under Edward Heath and rejected as unworkable. Even if it worked in the private sector, how could the government levy it on itself as the public sector employer when it was faced with the inflation generated by the increased state spending also advocated by the Alliance?

Likewise, the allegedly radical plan for integrating tax and social benefits in a single structure is nothing new. Lord Cockfield produced a finished tax-credit scheme under Edward Heath and it is certainly the right approach. But the problem is cost. What is wrong with the SDP approach is that it would apply the scheme to the existing social service commitments without re-examining their individual merits. So extra tax would have to be levied on people with incomes somewhere between £10,000 and £17,000 according to differing SDP versions.

All right, says Owen, defending the originally embarrassing commitment which he eventually decided to make the centrepiece of his conference address, but people are altruistic, and anyway it would be dishonest to pretend that the extra social spending could be had by soaking the rich. Honest it may be, but the scheme is no more radical than new. A radical scheme would start by identifying the essential but often under-financed services (hospitals, education, the handicapped and so on). It would then weed out the schemes and subsidies on which money is wasted by local authorities and ministries.

If this were done, the integrated tax and benefits system would not involve the need to raise still more tax from people with relatively modest earnings. But disturbing the vested interests of bureaucratic waste is too radical an approach for the SDP.

Owen should have a word with Roy Jenkins who, when he was Labour chancellor, once explained to me emphatically that there is a point at which it is impracticable to tax people more heavily, and that this point had been reached at that time. I would have thought that it has also been reached now. The fact that the SDP doesn't see this is instructive. The Alliance still needs a big idea, for the scheme that Dr Owen has embraced with characteristic impulsiveness is not it.

moreover... Miles Kington

Junk mail, but what a cake

When the International Herald Tribune posts me a copy of its excellent paper, it addresses me as Kingdon Miles. So when I get other pieces of mail from around the globe with my name reversed in the same way, I assume it is because the Herald Trib has lent its mailing list to someone else. I don't mind, because it gives me a chance to see what kind of international organizations think that an international reader like me is worth offering business to. Credit cards, financial magazines, airlines, big banks - these are the firms that I get mail-shots from, and I read them all carefully before throwing them away.

What all these companies have in common is that they are large, international and impersonal. Is this not the way that all companies go after a while? So I was staggered last week to receive a letter addressed to Kingdon Miles, addressing me as "Dear Holiday Gift Buyer", which came from what appeared to be a small personal company. The letter continued: "This Christmas, really surprise and delight those on your list with the internationally famous DELUXE fruitcake baked in our little town of Corsicana (50 miles south of Dallas)."

For those of us who had not previously heard of the internationally famous DELUXE fruitcake, the writer of the letter (L.W. McNut Jr) explained that "from around the globe come prime harvest fruits and cherries which we blend with pure honey nectar into a rich batter, crunchy with crisp Texan pecan nut meats". The cake, made by the Collins Street Bakery, was shipped to 194 countries last year, and the enclosed history of the firm includes this folksy dialogue.

Q. People call your bakery and fruitcake a legend. Must have taken awhile.
A. We turned ninety January of this year.
Q. How should a legend taste?
A. Legendary fruitcake should taste better than any other fruitcake you've bought, baked or eaten, or you deserve a refund.

Now, the Collins Street Bakery has obviously expanded over the years, as you might guess from the fact that its address is no longer Collins Street but 401, W. Seventh Avenue, Corsicana; indeed, any firm that sends its cake to 194 countries is not just a backstreet bakery, but has claims to be as international as IBM. What strikes me as particularly wonderful about this firm, apart from the strangely volcanic red colour of the photos of its fruitcake, is the fact that it has managed to survive nearly 100 years selling just one thing. It breaks all known laws of commerce. Call it diversification, exploitation, expansion or what you will, but almost every firm I can think of fails to stick with the original product.

Newspapers always start producing books. Filing stations start selling potatoes. The BBC starts getting involved in computers. Clive Sinclair starts making crazy bicycles. Straightforward chemists stock cuddly birthday gifts. Even shops that do nothing but photostocking documents for you end up by producing greeting cards.

In fact, have you noticed that everyone ends up by stocking greeting cards, Asian newsagents, branch libraries, Ryman's the stationers, serious bookshops and petrol stations? Some charities do little else, and museums would be dead if they didn't.

But the Collins Street Bakery doesn't make anything but the one fruitcake. In 90 years it has resisted the temptation to diversify into a second kind of cake. Most firms that started 90 years ago are now as big as EMI and making electronic scanners, but these boys are still making one cake. The only confusion they make on their order form is to allow you to order the regular, medium or large sizes (and they give a discount on an order of more than 100 cakes, as well they might). They have, in fact, defied all laws of business expansion and survived to be proud of it. So proud that they have even sent me a list of their distinguished clientele which I would be joining, including: "Mr and Mrs Dave Brubeck, Queens-Ruby League Ltd of Milton, Co of Reykjavik, Iceland, HRH of Orleans", and many others.

I haven't decided if I'm going to buy a cake yet. But I'm definitely putting the Collins Street Bakery on my list of people to send a Christmas card to.



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A MATTER OF CONFIDENCE

Dr David Owen's address yesterday was an appropriate ending to a Social Democratic Conference in which difficulties have been overcome and unity has been preserved. The speech was a mini-masterpiece of tactics, if not of strategy, and it allows the SDP to continue happily homing up its policy discussions, leaving Dr Owen himself free to develop his personal hot-line communications to the electorate, which is clearly the most powerful weapon in the Alliance armoury.

The two most dangerous threats to SDP unity when the Conference began were from differences over nuclear defence policy and misgivings about the SDP scheme for merging tax and social benefits. The potential row over post-Polaris nuclear defence between the dominant Owenites on the one side and on the other the Liberals and the SDP supporters of Mr William Rodgers, has been successfully avoided by genuflection to the idea of a European nuclear deterrent on which both Dr Owen and Mr Steel have agreed.

The row over the cost to taxpayers with relatively small earnings of the scheme for tax and benefits has been defused in a rather different way by Dr Owen himself. He did this by embracing the scheme with unexpectedly wholehearted enthusiasm yesterday, despite his apparent concern earlier about the electoral consequences of the extra cost to many taxpayers with relatively modest pay. Indeed, Dr Owen made enthusiasm for the merger scheme the policy

centre-piece of his speech. Far from apologizing for the cost of the scheme to some taxpayers, he baldly asserted that the SDP had decided not to raise taxes, not to put up rates, and to build on whatever standard rate they inherited, if they came to power, whether it was 27p or even 25p, fitting their structure to that basic rate.

It is, to say the least, odd that he could feel able to be quite so confident about taking as sacrosanct a standard rate tax legacy. Logic would suggest that whatever standard rate tax-levels the Alliance accepted in power would depend on their own overall economic and financial policy and on how the scheme interacted with this.

To say the least, some hard questions of arithmetic and theory will have to be put to the SDP in view of the somewhat arbitrary selection of figures given by Dr Owen yesterday, all of which just happened to stress the beneficiaries rather than the losers from the scheme as planned. For the time being, however, Dr Owen has taken his stand on his belief that altruism and conscience will bring electoral support for the scheme. So it may be the scheme is generally thought to be just. But though it is right in principle, the electorate may not be so sure that it will be justly applied.

Dr Owen's presentation of the SDP as the party of altruism, rationality, common sense and trustworthiness was the heart of his speech. He thinks that the electorate will turn to him and his party

because they are different from the old parties of the right and left with their vested interests and rival claims to the monopoly of truth. But for a politician who places an anathema on the old politics, Dr Owen shows himself remarkably skilled in the old arts of political persuasion and presentation. Yesterday he was no less willing than his opponents to stake his party's claim to be able to inspire the trust of the electors as they could not, and often seemed to speak as though his party's wish to promote unity in the nation was enough to ensure its achievement.

He also defied both the Conservatives and Labour to try ignoring the wishes of their own voters by refusing to do a deal with the Alliance in the event of a hung parliament. Neither Conservative nor Labour voters would forgive their party for risking letting the old foe into power. One or the other would have to do a deal with the Alliance which would look first to whichever had the larger number of votes in the country. If not, the Alliance would not hesitate to precipitate a second election, and the voters would know who to blame and reward the Alliance. It was a splendid show of confidence from the one man who makes the Alliance a force to be reckoned with by his personal skill at public communications. On the other hand, Dr Owen should perhaps beware lest the public comes to suspect (for lack of facts, figures and a willingness to face hard options) that it is really something of a confidence trick.

THE REVIVING MAN OF EUROPE

Turkey had been given the "green light" to resume political relations with the European Community, said Sir Geoffrey Howe after this week's foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels. But the Foreign Secretary got his traffic signals wrong. In fact, the Turks have been put on red and amber.

The Association Agreement between Ankara and the EEC was suspended following the imposition of martial law in Turkey six years ago. Now Turkey's return to civilian rule and economic growth under a moderate government have furnished the country with its most powerful argument for a return to the status quo ante. In January 1981 however, Greece entered the Community, thereby ensuring that relations between Ankara and Brussels could hardly be quite the same again—at least not for some years to come.

The Turks have made little secret of their ambition not just to reactivate the agreement but in time to become the Community's 13th member. Turkish industrialists who turn to the East to pray, look West when assessing their commercial future. And so do Ankara's politicians who see in

the EEC a means of shoring up Turkish democracy against any further terrorist campaigns and consequent incursions by the military.

There are good reasons for the West to sympathize with this aspiration. Turkey is, after all, an established member of Nato, with the alliance's biggest army outside the United States. Its position commanding the Dardanelles and straddling some of the ancient land routes between Russia and the Gulf, make its strength and welfare a matter of some importance to Western security.

That is why it is important for the Community to improve its relationship with Turkey. The major Northern democracies like West Germany, France and this country are justifiably anxious that relations should be normalized.

But they are understandably wary of moving too fast too soon. The Greeks, who are downright opposed, cite the need for still greater improvement in Turkey's record on human rights, an end to discrimination against Greek citizens living in Turkey and the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Northern Cyprus.

But Bonn is equally anxious about the implementation of a 1960s principle which would allow the free movement of Turkish workers around the Community, at a time when 1.5 million Turks, many now unemployed, are already living in West Germany.

It is commonly said that Turkey is not ready to join the community, that its industrial base would crumble beneath the weight of unbridled European competition. But it is perhaps more true that the Community is not ready yet for Turkey. It took Europe more than a decade to absorb Britain, spiritually and above all financially. It has problems with Greece and is still digesting Spain and Portugal. For it now to take in another non-paying guest would certainly delay the process of closer integration.

The proper answer to any Turkish inquiries about membership of the Community must continue to be: "Not yet". Happily this is understood in Ankara as well as anywhere else and no Turkish government is anxious to risk an embarrassing rejection by submitting an application too soon.

AS ELIGIBLE AS THE MALE

In the autumn of 1982 an air of resignation hung over the women's movement in the United States. A decade of affirmative action, two years of Reagan-style Republicanism and well-rehearsed complaints about the "gender gap" (a dated term if ever there was one) had yielded negligible returns in the first mid-term elections of the Reagan presidency.

Four years and a failed Democratic vice-presidential candidate later, the picture is quite different. Women candidates have made their strongest showing in the mid-term primaries ever. They have captured nominations for the whole gamut of state and federal offices, from governor to senator. And their advance has been as strong in the Republican Party as it has been among the traditionally more feminist-minded Democrats. Strangely, though, the women's movement as it was even four years ago is now less in evidence.

Opinions already differ about how many of this week's women's victors owe their success to the delayed impact of the women's movement and the affirmative action it fostered, and how many have achieved their success for other reasons. Some, like Kathleen Kennedy Townsend had the advantage of political pedigree; others relied solely on their professional or political record and their campaigning ability.

But there is general agreement that feminism, in the sense of aggressive campaigning for equal rights and opportunities for women socially and professionally, played only a minor role, if any, in the candidates' campaigns. If some women entered politics through the feminist movement, others did so on ostensibly anti-feminist issues like opposition to abortion. But this time most women politicians—the Kennedy scion among them—campaigning along entirely conventional lines, emphasizing the needs of working couples with children (ie the new-style American family).

In this respect, the women now nominated will be able to claim that they were elected on their own merits and not to make a feminist point, and this is all to the good. If women political candidates are being judged on the same basis as male candidates, on their mastery of the issues, on their integrity, political acumen and capacity to do the job, then one of the main—and most sympathetic—aims of the feminist movement will have been achieved.

But any attempt to make this the accepted explanation for the nomination of so many women and give the equal rights movement all the credit should be tinged with caution. After Geraldine Ferraro's initially impressive performance in the last presidential campaign, politics became a fashionable pastime for

women and voting for a woman became a fashionable pastime for men. US society moves fast, especially on the two coasts. The women will have to prove themselves in office before their victory can be said to be won.

Inevitably, the political success of women will be hailed by minority groups, not only in the United States, as evidence that campaigns for equality and affirmative action work. Such a conclusion is premature. Women constitute 54 per cent of the US population; hardly a minority. Many of the political attitudes believed to be associated with the female half of the electorate, a dislike of aggressive talk, a greater tolerance of tax-funded welfare payments and a preference for compromise, find a response among people who have misgivings about the Reagan approach. Women politicians have also spearheaded the anti-drugs campaign.

Blacks, Hispanics and other minority groups have a much narrower appeal, and their quest for power is still seen by many as a threat, especially if they campaign as representatives of their ethnic group, rather than as representatives of a party. This week's women victors appear to have recognized that—even with their numerical strength—a feminist platform is not a sufficient basis for office. Those without the numerical advantage will have to recognize it too.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

International profile for security

From Mr Jonathan Beels
Sir, Mr M. Yardley's article (September 10) on "What we must do to curb the terrorists" contains some misapprehensions. He says security systems should "be as unobtrusive as possible and should always present a human face when they come into contact with the public". He sees the policemen with machine guns at Heathrow as "a visible sign of insecurity". He then goes on to praise the Israelis for having been "so successful".

Has Mr Yardley ever tried boarding an El Al flight anywhere, let alone in Israel itself? The security profile presented to the public and, more to the point, to the potential terrorist at El Al check-in counters is positively daunting. It is not friendly, but it is effective. There are times when high profile security is desirable because it provides a measure of deterrence.

Mr Yardley's main suggestion, that "a truly international unit", modelled on the SAS, GSG9 and Delta, should be created under the aegis of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and the International Air Transport Association, to respond to terrorist incidents in countries without an adequate counter-terrorist response force of their own, is unrealistic. ICAO and IATA are not structured and equipped to take this on, say, the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank.

Prison design

From the Director of the Prison Reform Trust
Sir, I entirely accept the statement (September 10) from the Director General of the Prison Service that the new top-security prison at Full Sutton will be used for the purpose for which it was designed. Equally, I hope that he will accept that the correspondence from the Prison Department which formed the basis of our briefing of your Home Affairs Correspondent was legitimately capable of a different interpretation since it plainly states that the role of Full Sutton was under review.

It remains my view that when Full Sutton comes on stream the prison service will be encumbered with a surfeit of top-security accommodation. It is pertinent that as early as 1982 senior Home Office officials were expressing concern over the need for another dispersal prison.

This was followed in 1984 by a report from a committee of senior government and Civil Servants—the Control Review Committee—which called into question the whole dispersal prison philosophy and recommended "a significant reduction" in their number. That Full Sutton still proceed in these circumstances more than justifies our continuing unease about the whole prison building programme.

Church in crisis

From the Rev Christopher Lewis
Sir, The extracts which you have printed (September 8-10) from *The Church in Crisis* make intriguing reading. I wonder why people take the trouble to read so much about the Church if it is so insignificant. All the "crisis" books seem to have the same basic assumption, namely that the Church is declining because its clergy are inadequate.

No doubt it is true that we are inadequate, but I imagine that the Church has been consistently second rate, much in the manner described, since AD. What's new?

Has it struck the writers that it is worth examining another hypothesis: that the Churches are all declining because people are becoming more pagan by choice. Britain is perhaps going in the direction of Sweden (godless and self-satisfied) rather than that of the USA (church-going and idealistic).

To analyse the current (perhaps temporary) decline as a consequence of the choice to be pagan is more worrying, but it may be more profound.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER LEWIS,
The Parsonage,
Spalding,
Lincolnshire.
September 10.

Jordan dismissals

From the Ambassador of Jordan
Sir, I have read with great interest the letter published in *The Times* (September 12) from a group of academicians in Oxford University under the heading "Concern over Jordan dismissals", and as much as I pleased me to find that such distinguished Britons are concerned with events in my country, it also disheartened me to find their letter so misinformed about the fact of the said event at Yarmouk University, having based it on incorrect and highly exaggerated reports by the media.

It goes without saying that demonstrations among students are familiar events in universities the world over for a spectrum of reasons, ranging from discontent to internal rivalry among certain groups of students, to conflicts between the student body and the university staff. Yarmouk University is certainly no exception.

Doctors who fail to grasp the law

From Mr John Finch
Sir, Misconceptions of the law can colour doctors' decision-making. Such misconceptions go not only to what the law says but more deeply into the very nature of legal regulation of professional practice.

A case which could have this effect is that of *Wisher v Essex Area Health Authority*. The disturbing headline to your Law Report of that case (August 6), "Doctor's inexperience no defence to negligence", is not supported by the full, original transcript of the judgments without much refinement.

The defendant health authority in the case was liable as employer of an experienced and knowledgeable registrar. The "inexperienced" senior house officer (more junior) was acquitted of negligence by all three Courts of Appeal judges. The decision, of some 85 pages, significantly qualifies the liability of inexperienced doctors.

Your correspondents (August 28) incorrectly refer to "punitive damages", over and above ordinary compensation for personal injury, as inconceivable in a medical negligence action. A case decided last year, *Kralj v McGrath*, put this beyond doubt.

Medical misconceptions of legal responsibility have two results. First, "defensive medicine" is practised in fear of a perceived and frequently unreal foe. This is not defensiveness, it is defensivism. As such it is the enemy both of doctors and of those they treat.

Second, a cry rises up for a new type of compensation independent of the need to prove fault. Such a system is not without its defects, as New Zealand knows. Our fault-based compensation system for medical accidents is undergoing extensive rationalisation. It should be much better understood by the very practitioners to whom it applies. To succeed in this task would be to make the "devil" we know present as a more manageable risk.

Professionals could get on with exercising their judgement with greater reassurance. A failure to get across the legal parameters of professional medical practice may cause medical attitudes to law to be based on superstition, misconception and ignorance. That would be to the disadvantage of a great many.

Yours,
JOHN FINCH,
University of Leicester,
Faculty of Law,
Leicester.
September 9.

Food for the hungry

From Mr T. N. W. Bush
Sir, Your correspondent in the Ivory Coast reports (September 10) on the new threat to crops from locusts and grasshoppers.

As a boy in Swaziland during the devastating locust infestation of the early 1930s I was taught by black herdboys how to cook locusts on a piece of iron over an open fire. They were quite delicious, tasting like salted peanuts, and were, of course, rich in protein. Has anyone investigated this possible source of food in famine-stricken Africa?

Yours sincerely,
T. N. W. BUSH,
5 St Fagan's House,
Bradford Place,
Penarth, South Glamorgan.

Identity crisis

From Mrs Rosemary Jones
Sir, Mrs Brighthouse (September 8) reported having used nail varnish to identify her baby. Before this becomes a widespread fashion, I would like to tell readers that, as a Guider, I have spent many pre-camp evenings urging Guides to put their names on plates, not a blob of nail varnish. More than one red blob per patrol causes confusion.

Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY JONES,
Furness Oak, Crouch House Road,
Eldenbridge, Kent.

ministers and highly qualified academics who through their academic experience had the insight and understanding of looking into the reasons of unrest with integrity and honesty.

This committee was entrusted with a fact-finding mission to throw light on the undercurrents which led to the creation of a climate conducive to instability in the university campus.

After a lengthy and careful study of the findings of this committee, the Government dealt with the situation in a fair and humane manner, bearing in mind only the interest of the university, its professors and students, as a result of which normal life was restored to the university, and the smooth running of its affairs and studies has resumed unimpeded.

There certainly is no cause for worry over the state of affairs in the University of Yarmouk, which Jordan considers with pride to be an educational achievement and a strong citadel of learning that are keen to preserve.

Yours faithfully,
NABIH AL-NIMR,
Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan,
6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W8,
September 16.

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Yours,
JOHN FINCH,
University of Leicester,
Faculty of Law,
Leicester.
September 9.

Pregnancies at risk

From Professor Martin Bobrow and others
Sir, Your report of September 6 highlights the progress in developing gene probes that has made it possible to screen pregnancies at high risk of such common genetic diseases as cystic fibrosis and muscular dystrophy.

Some couples who are carriers of these conditions may be tempted by this news to contemplate undertaking pregnancies that they have previously denied themselves. We would like to caution them that extensive testing of a whole family before the start of pregnancy is necessary before such diagnosis can be undertaken.

Furthermore, at least in the South-east the parlous state of NHS finances means that despite recognition of the importance of these new techniques, resources are not available to fund them adequately. What testing can be undertaken must, therefore, be supported by short-term arrangements with charitable organizations, and our limited capacity could well be saturated by sudden demand.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN BOBROW,
A. CAROLINE BERRY,
(Paediatric Research Unit, Guy's Hospital),
MARCUS PEMBREY,
(Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street),
The Prince Philip Research Laboratories,
Guy's Tower 8th Floor,
Guy's Hospital,
London Bridge, SE1,
September 10.

British Library

From Mr George Chowdhary-Best
Sir, Some of us, who share Lord Thomas of Swynnton's doubts (September 5) about the new British Library building without going the whole way with him, would find Lord Quinton's and the British Library Board's arguments (September 10) more convincing if we had not read of the fate in ancient times of the great library of Alexandria, and more recently of the public records housed in the Four Courts at Dublin, both destroyed by fire.

These are strong historical arguments in favour of a reasonable dispersal rather than an over-concentration of collections. We also have doubts about the new building itself, for we have heard rumours that many readers and staff will not be able to see the sky and we shall be slowly blinded by excessive quantities of compulsory fluorescent light, which will not only cost a great deal of money but will render large parts of the new library unusable in the event of a power cut or long-term failure of fossil-fuel resources.

Yours faithfully,
G. CHOWDHARY-BEST,
27 Walpole Street, SW3,
September 11.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 18 1938

The London and Birmingham Railway was not the first line but it was the first of any length and the first which had any impact on the commercial and social life of the country. Among the spectators at Rugby was the formidable headmaster Dr Arnold who was heard to remark: "I rejoice to see it and I think that football has gone for ever". The L. and B. became the London and North-West—the "premier line"—and in 1923 amalgamated with the Midland, the Lancashire & Yorkshire, the Caledonia and others to form the London Midland and Scottish.

OPENING OF THE LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY

Yesterday was the first day that the new line of rail from London to the Birmingham terminus was opened. The portion of the road which was traversed for the first time on this occasion was that which extends between the old station at Denbigh-hall and the station at Rugby. The first train started from the Euston-square station at 7 o'clock, having in the carriage the proprietors of the undertaking and their friends. It was said in Birmingham that they accomplished the whole journey in four hours and a half. The portion of the line just opened, from Denbigh-hall to Rugby, appears to be equally good with any other part of the road. It is in this division of the road, shortly before entering Rugby station, that the trains pass through Killy tunnel. It has been asserted that this tunnel fell in during the boring of it, but it is not the case. It is one of the most extraordinary pieces of road in the whole line. The length of this tunnel is 2,400 yards in length, and does great credit to the skill of Mr. Foster, the engineer by whom it has been completed. The road, as most persons know, passes through six of the most beautiful counties of England—Middlesex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, and Warwickshire, and through a line of country abounding with fine prospects, historical recollections, and antiquities. One drawback to travelling by the railroad however is, that for many miles it is so buried between lofty embankments, that, nothing can be seen but the sides of the trench, and this is more particularly the case where a prospect of the seats and parks of the nobility and gentry would be most desirable. Another disagreeable feature in the road, through the tunnel, of which in the whole line there are seven, the road is crossed by numerous bridges, all of excellent workmanship, and some of considerable elegance. That part of the road which has been open some time has been repeatedly described, but that portion which is opened yesterday for the first time is of course less known. One of the principal places through which it passes is Weedon. The place is 67 miles from London. The Baroness Watling-street comes close to it, the rail-road of 2,000 years ago. It was a place of some importance in the time of the Saxons, as it is recorded that Wulphere, one of the Kings of Mercia, built a palace here, which was afterwards converted into a nunnery by his daughter Werbrug. From the railroad the traveller looks down upon the banks of the river, which are very spacious, containing a hospital, parade, &c. This extensive depot is, as a military establishment, not surpassed by any in the kingdom; it is capable of receiving 200,000 stand of arms. A great quantity of warlike stores and artillery are generally deposited here. The Grand Junction Canal communicates with the stone-bridges in the town, and the rail-road passes. The Grand Junction Canal is carried across the valley by means of a very noble embankment on the left. The village, on the right of which the square tower of the church may be seen, is Flowe; it is beautifully situated in the valley. From the summit of the hill above Weedon may be distinguished Fawley-park, the seat of Sir C. Knighley. The house is one of the finest specimens remaining of the manorial residences of the old English gentry. It stands in an extensive park abounding with enormous trees and filled with deer. At Deddow, which is a little beyond Weedon, the labourers hold a fête in honour of the day. There were nearly 800 persons assembled, enjoying themselves in various ways. The most beautiful town, or rather city, on the whole line is, however, Coventry. The spires of St. Michael's church, 300 feet high, of the Holy Trinity, and of the Grey Friars, are the great ornament of the neighbourhood.

Yours faithfully,
BLANCHE W. FARLEY,
Merton,
38 Henley Road,
Taunton, Somerset.

From Mr D. R. Woodman
Sir, During a lifetime of Anglican allegiance I have always understood that the regular and generous use of incense, besides being good liturgical practice, is a sovereign remedy against the presence of bats.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS WOODMAN,
26 Butser Walk,
Petersfield, Hampshire.

From Miss B. W. Farley
Sir, With regard to Mr Harry Porter's quest for advice on species of stuffed owl to scare the church bats away (September 10), I understand bats' droppings are much sought after as manure for house plants.

Perhaps it would be more profitable to his church if the droppings were swept into plastic bags and sold in aid of church funds.

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38 Henley Road,
Taunton, Somerset.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

September 18, 1986

In recent introductions to General Appointments there has been a mood of urgent optimism, such as might be expressed by the manager to a football team trailing 0-1 at half-time; and excellent advice has appeared — much of it understandably, in the form of exhortation to higher, abstract virtues. However, it is necessary from time to time to return to more basic considerations — to review, for example, what it is that is being sought in these pages when the word "manager" is used.

A distinction has been made in recent years between a leader and a manager. Those who made it, and those who subscribe to it, claim that this is not an esoteric distinction: the effectiveness of an organization can depend upon knowing which one of these two different creatures it needs.

In brief, leaders are defined very much as they always have been — as innovators, risk-takers, creators of excitement, guides to The Way. Managers, on the other hand, are viewed as bureaucrats. More and more the traditional view of the manager as a dynamic leader is being challenged. He is being seen, not as an initiator, but as one who reacts to keep his organization balanced and to keep the number of possible options to a minimum.

Given the need for change, the manager will do his best to adapt his own behaviour — a need which in recent years has led to a proliferation of "management" courses which have behavioural modification as one of their primary goals.

The leader, on the other hand, seeks to change the circumstances. Managers adapt to their inherited surroundings, as one eminent writer has put it, "like a chameleon". Organizations need such adaptable people, of course. Yet a confusion remains. There are several possible reasons for this. The first is semantic. The word "manager" itself seems to combine two very different functions. In his *Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society*, Raymond Williams points out the two different probable origins of "manage": one from the Italian word meaning to handle, as a lion-tamer might "handle" his lions, and the other from the French word for running the household.

The overlap was already present in the English of the 18th century, and our modern usage certainly includes both connotations. Probably most would agree that a manager is expected to "handle" employees and at the same time run the day-to-day doings of his organizational "household". The

The roles of leaders and managers, both significant in British business today, are examined by Roger Willis



problem arises when these two functions become separable, or, indeed, incompatible.

The double meaning of the title does not allow for separation. The word can assume two, unexpressed, meanings in two minds, and communication can break down. Many organizations, particularly on their annual graduation-recruitment rounds, appear to be asking for leaders, or potential leaders, only to subject the successful applicants to a period of "orientation" to a new culture, which will, sooner rather than later, press them into conformity or cause frustration or resentment.

I have recently observed a case where a senior, but newly appointed, manager was sacked for

not behaving according to the expected pattern. Months later, he is still bewildered: "But I thought they wanted me to manage," he complains.

Another possible reason for the confusion is tradition, particularly when the management function is taken for granted. For some time now, researchers have been finding that, in fact, managers do not spend their time actively doing those things they have long been assumed (and perhaps have even been taught) to do — planning, organizing, directing/leading, controlling.

What they do is to implement directives from their superiors, attend meetings, arrange for things to be done that others (including

the members of these meetings) have proposed, sort out subordinates' and operational problems — to react, in brief, to events over which the manager has far less control than is generally supposed.

Peter Drucker recently (May 1986) suggested that, in the "knowledge-based" organization, the knowledge workers are the bosses with the manager in a supporting role as planner and coordinator. "I have myself 'managed' a highly competent professional group, and described myself at that time as a warehouse-keeper. My main function was merely to ensure that the team had all the resources it needed in order to continue producing its excellent results."

A third reason can possibly be found in the organization's culture. This is the focus of a great deal of current attention. A popular theory holds that managerial effectiveness is to be measured by the extent to which three things overlap: competence required by the job; the actual competence of the incumbent; and organizational culture.

The last element can be defined as that which makes an organization unique: the economic and political environment in which it functions, its product, market

trends, the personality of its head, its traditions, philosophies, goals and a number of other considerations.

Culture determines the way people behave. What is perfectly acceptable in one organization may be as totally unacceptable in another. This means that managers doing very similar work can be happy in one organization, but miserable in another — even, I have found, in different divisions of the same company.

"Fitting into our way of doing things" can therefore be a prime consideration for a manager, though not, of course, for a leader.

The main problem here is that very few organizations seem to define their culture accurately. Some try, and get it wrong — for example, claiming to manage by objectives and results, while promoting people on grounds of seniority or loyalty.

Others find it extremely difficult because the subject has never before been raised. Unless deliberately and systematically pursued, it remains locked below the level of consciousness, rather like personal idiosyncrasies.

This is then a plea for organizational self-examination. Those

who are responsible for filling vacancies should conduct a four-fold investigation before drafting managerial position-descriptions:

- What will this person actually do?
- What knowledge and skills are required to do these things?
- What observable characteristics are needed?
- Will the answers produce an incumbent who will fit into our way of doing things — or will he or she rock the boat? Do we want the boat rocked?

The approach needs to be systematic; and there are good, proven systems to hand. The results are sometimes surprising — as in at least two cases I know of, where the ideal candidate proved to be internal, though currently employed in an "unlikely" department. But such results are practically guaranteed to be measurably more effective than those produced by no system at all.

Roger Willis is a co-founder of Effective Management Practice, an international management consultancy. He is also a Fellow of the British Institute of Management and a board member of the International Consultants Foundation.

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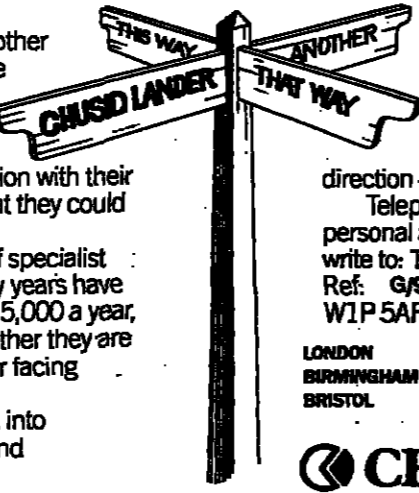
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**APPOINTMENTS
CONTINUE ON
PAGE 28**

THE ARTS

كلمة من الأهل

Television Dubious bonuses

Once there was Book Choice, now there is Talking to Writers (Channel 4), a new series of interviews with writers of international repute...

In these latitudes, television has to work hard to prove its ascendancy over radio. The visual bonuses here were on the dubious side: Miss Lee waved a pen in her hand while posing her convoluted questions...

Concurrently, The Possessed (Channel 4) provided another object-lesson in the limitations of televised stage performances. For all its overblown self-indulgence, Lyubimov's original reworking of Dostoevsky's 18 months ago used the Almeida's space to high theatrical effect...

Martin Cropper

Dance

SWRB Covent Garden

I fail to see the point of mounting Kenneth MacMillan's Quartet for the programme being given three performances this week by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet. The music is Verdi's Quartet in E minor, by no means the kind of thing he was best at...

The programme continues with two further ill-chosen works. Michael Corder's Hand of Youth loses a lot by transfer to this larger stage and auditorium: its intimate little drama of children growing up before the First World War misses its focus...

The opening of new museum and gallery buildings in West Germany still continues apace. The latest is the giant block between Cologne Cathedral and the Rhine which houses two already existing museums...

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE MAREST, LONDON E8 4SA (Chadly Ref. No. 231322) Her final days with you were among the happiest of her life...



It is a mark of this country's changing theatrical climate that actors and directors of established ability seem these days to be seeking freedom from the huge organizations which they have helped to create.

Sir Anthony Quayle, who ran Stratford in the Fifties, now leads a touring company called Compass, whose speciality is high-standard productions of the classics. John Dexter, once a corner-stone of Sir Laurence Olivier's regime at the National, has recently joined forces with the veteran impresario Eddie Kulkundis to form the New Theatre Company and stage The Cocktail Party...

Both of them have done much of their most rewarding work within the big, subsidized companies. Pennington played Hamlet at the end of a seven-year career at Stratford, before joining the National in 1984 to take leading roles in Venice Preserv'd and Strider - The Story of a Horse. Bogdanov directed Strider, has been an associate director at the NT since 1980 and won the SWET award in 1979 for his RSC Taming of the Shrew.

Private enterprise in Britain's theatre took an imposing step forward with yesterday's announcement of the founding of the English Shakespeare Company: Michael Bogdanov (left) and Michael Pennington talk to Andrew Rissik about their collaboration in the new venture

Heady challenge of touring on the grand scale

Vic. To some extent the choices have been made for them, determined by the wishes of their backers, who seem to have been excited by the prospect of two experienced Shakespeareans able and willing to take large-scale productions on tour.

Both lay claim to long-nurtured ambitions to do the Henry plays, and the scale of the project, with all its difficulties, appears to offer them an adrenalin-drawing combination of fear and excitement. 'To rehearse three plays in nine weeks must register as the balmyest repertory schedule of the year', Pennington says, with a faintly combative smile.

with Yuri Lyubimov's Crime and Punishment and Strider - there's more in common than might appear. 'When I first worked with Michael on Shadow of a Gunman I thought we'd all be riding around on monocycles', says Pennington. 'Instead, I found he challenged me on every single naturalistic detail of my performance'.

Both men may be undervalued, in their different ways. Pennington's work has sometimes seemed too reverent, while Bogdanov has often been thought too crude, an energetically opinionated director who lacks subtlety. At his best, though, he has a flair and a visual panache rare in the English theatre.

It is easy to see why they want to tackle the Henry plays. The epic flux of society, the picturesque sprawl of a nation in change, is Shakespeare at his most searchingly political. And Harry Monmouth, the layabout prince who becomes the Warrior King, is the longest and most complex role in the canon. Pennington speaks for both of them when he says, simply, 'In the end I think we just share a terror of boredom'.

The English Shakespeare Company tour begins at Plymouth (Theatre Royal, November 3 to 15) and Cardiff (New Theatre, November 17 to 23).

Concerts

Israel PO/ Bernstein Festival Hall

One felt one had arrived late for the party. Here was Leonard Bernstein having a whale of a time conducting his Jubilee Games, written this year for the Israel Philharmonic's fiftieth birthday...

Jubilees may be biblically about universal freedom, but this is not an easy concept to introduce to a symphony orchestra and, though there was a distinct charm in hearing Bernstein latch on to what was avant-garde 20 years ago (unregulated ensemble even a touch, and mercifully only that, of 'free improvisation'), the result in the first movement of his piece was a mess.

LCCO/McIntosh Elizabeth Hall

You have to admire the boldness of the London City Chamber Orchestra. A whole concert of Busoni is not likely to be to many people's tastes at the best of times, and when it is given by a newish orchestra without much of a reputation then empty seats are guaranteed.

Despite that, some of the music came close to succeeding, for instance the Berceuse élégiaque, Op 42, which for some reason was played in Erwin Stein's orchestration rather than the composer's own (and flavoured, moreover, by a harmonium that sounded as if it might have sprung a leak).

Israel PO/ Bernstein Festival Hall

gramme note identified it as Hassidic) could hold its own against the swing of New York. But if Jubilee Games brought us Bernstein diluted, Dvorak's 'New World' Symphony offered the real thing.

These were not the best circumstances for making any judgement of the orchestra. The sound of the strings, potentially strong and fine, was spoiled by so many small-scale inaccuracies of ensemble. Since they must long have learnt to follow Bernstein's feet rather than his baton, perhaps this had more to do with jet-lag than with the conductor's impulsiveness.

Paul Griffiths

baritone Richard Suart boldly but with an edge of tension in his upper register. 'Schlechter Trost', Busoni's last work, and 'Zigeunerlied' each travelled along the same path as the Berceuse élégiaque, mysteriously understated, ghostly music, suspended in a no man's land of expressionless expressionism.

Stephen Pettitt

Theatre Tuesday's Child Stratford East

As Dave Allen has demonstrated, to mock the fables of the Roman Catholic faith is to find a ready audience among (presumably) those who suffered it in childhood. All a stage priest has to do in order to raise a laugh is to exclaim 'Jaysus!'. Tuesday's Child, by Terry Johnson and Kate Lock, leans heavily on this convention without achieving much beyond a sort of farce manqué.

The priest in question is a youngish man ministering to the souls of a small town in Eire - the country where beleaguered Catholicism has attempted to revive the age of miracles in the form of moving statues. Father Doyle's doubts extend beyond such novelties to strike at the very heart of Mariolatry: his Scientific American informs him of



Kate Lock agreeably winsome as Theresa in Tuesday's Child, with Michael Angelis (left) and David Blake Kelly

virgin births among chickens. Might there not also be a rational explanation for Jesus Christ? To his confessional (wheeled round to face the house in a cloud of incense) comes one Theresa, the dutiful, none-too-

Now, inevitably, she is pregnant, though still intact.

It was around this point that the BBC television version of the piece ended. Mike Bradwell's stage production continues the story into the kitchen of the old folks' home over the ensuing months, with coachloads of orphans waiting outside for the virgin's benediction, and with the Press barging in on this domestic imbrolios. This provides the setting for jokes about 'something in the oven' and for Teresa's mother first to launch an operative wail of woe at the terrible news and later to mastermind her daughter's growing celebrity.

Eileen Atkins attacks this gorgon's role with great relish, and the co-author Kate Lock is agreeably winsome as Teresa. Michael Angelis seems miscast as Doyle, though David Blake Kelly works hard at the role of a senile priest and later as his son, Chris Jury as Teresa's brother has a curiously Australian accent.

Martin Cropper

Wait 'Til You See Her Albery

After her triumph at the Donmar Warehouse last June - transformed overnight from a New York cult figure little known here into a goddess for us all - Barbara Cook has lost no time in returning for an official West End debut. Those who missed her last time can now verify the legend. Wait 'Til You See Her is an expanded version of the same show, featuring Cook at full stretch in partnership with her stupendous accompanist, Wally Harper, and a bass guitarist, John Beal, who also does eye-popping things on the tuba.

In one respect, the expansion is for the worse. At the Warehouse, Cook simply stood up and sang. At the Albery, rather taken by all the gilt and pretty little shaded lights, she feels moved to pay breathless compliments to British tradition and then embark on a string of limp, name-dropping anecdotes. As she is a finer artist than most of the stars she mentions ('And who just happened to be standing there? Marlene Dietrich?') I do not see why she should feel called on to ingratiate herself in this self-boasting manner - if only for the reason that it takes up time she might have spent singing.

John Percival

two barnstorming numbers as if in doubt of her ability to fill the space, then gets into her stride with Gershwin's 'The Man I Love' - a strand of genteel, fastidious sound that penetrates every crevice of the building and establishes her power to define singing as an ideal form of human speech.

The repertoire extends from her youthful successes in Carousel and She Loves Me up to songs by Janis Ian and Mr Harper. The range is enormous. At one extreme there are tremendous jazz arrangements of 'Sweet Georgia Brown' and Bernstein's 'I Can Cook Too', where singer and players walk a vertiginous rhythmic tightrope, and the very floor seems to be shaking under your feet. At the other, the partners settle for extreme modesty: simple choral accompaniment and a voice of great purity, turning and piercing like a blade in the light, and extracting every nuance of regret and longing from songs like Rogers and Hart's 'There Goes My Young Intended' or Janis Ian's 'Star' where, if anywhere in programme, you sense a personal sub-text breaking through the irregular lines and self-comforting cadences.

As before, Mr Harper makes her work for her stardom: any lesser performer would be eclipsed by an accompaniment of such steel-fingered brilliance and sheer musical interest.

TONIGHT AND SEPT 23 AT 7.30 Reduced price previews of JONATHAN MILLER'S NEW PRODUCTION OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S 'THE MIKADO' Tickets £4.00-£12.50

New galleries in Germany Silvery cascades

collection of modern art was lent to it in 1968 and hived off to make a new and independent museum in 1976. Now they are brought together again, administratively separate, but under one roof. Well, several ranks of roofs, to be precise. The general impression given by the building (which also houses the new Kölner Philharmonie) from a distance is of a silvery cascade of roofs descending towards the river, in the giant shadow of the cathedral.

John Russell Taylor

ber 16) - a title which gives altogether too grand an idea of its contents. The Ludwig, more ambitiously, has Europe/America - History of an Artistic Fascination since 1940 (until November 30). Unfortunately this proves to be a non-starter. The catalogue, full of learned essays by international authorities, makes the show sound very coherent, but on the spot it can only be seen as an ill-assorted jumble of paintings and sculpture, European and American, which do not even all date from after 1940, and make no visible point whatever about transatlantic trends, attractions and repulsions.

John Russell Taylor

Disaster pit lost safety stars

Continued from page 1

The mine was visited yesterday by both the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, who promised a "full and thorough investigation", and by Mr Ramaphosa, who spent three hours underground in the stricken No 2 shaft where the disaster occurred.

Mr Ramaphosa said afterwards that he had been able to establish that a welder, whose acetylene cylinder is thought to have caught fire, was not equipped with a fire extinguisher. This seemed "irregular... in a highly flammable environment".

Mr Olivier agreed it would be normal practice for a welder to be equipped with an extinguisher, but could not say whether he had been in this case. The matter was being investigated by the government's mining engineer and was "sub judice".

According to Mr Olivier, the disaster started when an acetylene gas cylinder being used to weld a broken rail used by the ore trucks "started burning". This in turn set fire to PVC-sheathed cables and rubber pipes which gave off poisonous fumes.

A poly-urethane substance used to coat the side-walls and ceiling of the "cross-cut tunnel", linking the No 1 and No 2 shafts, where the welding operation was being carried out, also caught fire and released poisonous fumes.

He disclosed, under questioning, that the mine had lost two of its five safety stars "at the last audit by the Chamber of Mines when certain elements in the International Safety Rating System were rated below the required percentage". He claimed safety levels at the mine in general were "very good".

At Kinross, as on all South African gold mines, the vast majority of black miners are migrants by law, forced to leave families behind, either in one or other of South Africa's own tribal homelands, or in a neighbouring black state.

Rescuers tackle Paris bomb aftermath



Police and rescuers gathering at the site of the bomb blast, where five people died and 61 were injured, in the Montparnasse area of Paris yesterday

Thatcher and Kohl on target with tank guns

From Our Correspondent, Fallingb., West Germany.

Mrs Thatcher and Chancellor Kohl of West Germany visited the North German Plain yesterday during a field trip which was a demonstration of the close ties between Britain and its Nato ally, the Prime Minister said.

They fired the guns of a British Challenger and German Leopard tank respectively during the visit to the British Army in the Fallingb. area and scored direct hits on old tank hulls over a range of 1,000 to 1,500 yards. Mrs Thatcher's tank was one of the Royal Hussars

Unions review Wapping deal

Continued from page 1

national council comprising three representatives of relevant NI companies, two representatives from each of the print production unions and a representative of the TUC.

That council would deal with grievances referred to it in accordance with the grievance procedure and provide advisory and conciliation services to plant committees when requested.

Football bug

Walsall, the Third Division football club, was closed down yesterday for five days on medical advice, because 19 of the 26 players have been affected by a stomach complaint. Hospital tests are being carried out.

Frank Johnson at the SDP

A layman's guide to coded attacks

All too soon, it was time yesterday to leave well-ordered Harrogate. The Social Democratic Party conference closed with the speech of the leader, Dr David Owen. All important speeches of the party original founders of the party - Dr Owen, Mr Roy Jenkins, Mrs Shirley Williams and Mr William Rodgers - are now interpreted by newspapers and television as "coded" complaints, or sometimes attacks, on one another. Naturally the politicians concerned have to deny it.

Mrs Williams, introducing Dr Owen yesterday in her capacity as president of the party, objected particularly to that morning's *Sun* headline on a report of her own speech of the previous day: "Shirley Stams Owen as One-Man Band".

In fact, she insisted, she had been referring all along to the way in which the media say that the SDP is a one-man band.

Mrs Williams developed this harmless whopper for some time while Dr Owen waited to get up. How could the media say such a thing, she chattered, when the SDP had an industry spokesman such as Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, and a home affairs spokesman such as Mr Robert Maclean.

This was a coded attack on Mr Jenkins. "Shirley Lashes Roy: Leaves His Name Off List of SDP Geniuses."

"I could go on and on," she added, by which stage Dr Owen, Mr Jenkins and Mr Rodgers were undoubtedly brooding. "That's her trouble. She's always going on and on."

She admitted that she was "capable of having little local difficulties" with Dr Owen, but she added, he was "one of the most remarkable politicians in contemporary politics." For once, Mrs Williams had said something with which Dr Owen could completely agree, and he could at last get on with his speech.

This had many ideas for involving the Government in the running of the economy, ideas of a kind tried out by successive governments in the 1960s and 1970s with - in the view of some of us - ruinous results.

He was more persuasive when engaged in simple abuse of Labour, a party which he described as being balanced "only in the sense of having a chip on both shoulders." He had to imply that Mrs Thatcher and her followers were just as bad as Labour: a sentiment which he is suspected of not really believing.

In almost the next breath, he said that Social Democrats - being reasonable and in the centre - do not believe that everything Mrs Thatcher or Mr Kinnoch says is wrong. The trouble here was that he is suspected of believing that everything Mr Kinnoch says is wrong and that much more of what Mrs Thatcher says is right.

Despite, or because of, these implausibilities, the speech pleased all sections of the party. As the applause rained down on him, Dr Owen twice kissed Mrs Williams. This will be widely seen as a coded attack on Mr Jenkins: "David Snares Roy - no kiss for ex-SDP Chief."

It was time for a last view of the fine stone facade and lofty dining room of the Old Swan hotel. All week the building had been thronged with politicians, would-be politicians, reporters, and ferret-eyed "executives" from the media for whom life is a continuous Old Swan.

The building, it may be remembered, was where Agatha Christie hid when she mysteriously went missing for many days in the inter-war years. She checked in under the name of her husband's mistress.

This week it has been the refuge of Mr Jenkins, the much-loved author who disappeared from the leadership of the SDP in 1983.

Since the name was also on the register, it seems that he checked in as "Dr David Owen." By last night, he was gone.

Roy Jenkins's vanishing act

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: **FICTION:** *Al King*, and other stories, by W. Somerset Maugham (Oxford, £4.95) *Hellfire Winter*, by Brian Aldiss (Granta, £2.95) *Lucia in Wartime*, by Tom Holt (Black Swan, £3.50) **NON-FICTION:** *Dictionary of Confusing Words and Meanings*, by Adrian Room (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £6.95) *Early Verse by Rudyard Kipling 1879-1888*, edited by Andrew Rutherford (Edward Arnold, £5.95) *Exploring Scotland's Heritage, Dumfries and Galloway*, by Geoffrey Stall (Stationery Office, £5.95) *The Other Side of the Moon*, by Sheridan Morley (Coronet, £2.95) *The Ultimate Enemy, British Intelligence and Nazi Germany 1933-1939*, by Wesley K. Mark (Oxford, £5.95) *Unholy Pressure. The Idea of Social Class*, by P.N. Fitkin (Oxford, £4.95) *Wagner*, by Barry Millington (Dent, £4.95)

Roads

Wales and West: M5: Outside lane closures on both carriageways between junctions 24 and 25 near Taunton, M4: Resurfacing work on the eastbound carriageway between junctions 16 (Swindon) and 17 (Chippenham); contraflow westbound. A403: Resurfacing work at Aust. Avon.

The North: A1 (M)/A1: Lane closures southbound at the junction of the A1 with the M18; contraflow between junctions 6 and 7 (Yorkshire/Humber-side); southbound exit and northbound access slip roads closed at junction 6. M63: Major widening scheme at Barton Bridge, Greater Manchester; various traffic restrictions.

Scotland: A78: Traffic control W of the A78 (Kilwinning) during working hours. A1: Single line traffic with lights at Gladstone, Lothian, around and during the week; delays likely. A82: Various sets of roadworks between Ballachulish Bridge and Fort Augustus, Inver-shire; allow extra time for journey.

Information supplied by A.A.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will dominate the weather over most of the British Isles. A weak frontal system will affect northern Scotland later in the day.

6 am to midnight
London, central S, E, SW, central N, NE England, Midlands: Sunny periods and isolated showers, a few fog patches at first; wind NE light or moderate; temperatures a rise to low normal; max temp 16C (61F).
SE England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals scattered light showers; wind NE moderate; rather cold; max temp 15C (59F).
Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, isolated light showers, a few fog patches at first; wind variable; light; temperatures a little below normal; max temp 12C (54F).
Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Inver: A few fog patches at first, sunny intervals; wind mainly westerly light; temperatures near normal; max temp 16C (61F).
NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle; wind westerly moderate, perhaps fresh later; temperatures near normal; max temp 14C (57F).

Forecast for tomorrow and Saturday: Remaining dry with sunny periods after overnight frost and fog patches in most parts. More cloudy with rain and drizzle in Northern Scotland. Temperatures rising to near normal generally.

Lighting-up time
London 7.30 pm to 8.11 am
Edinburgh 7.40 pm to 8.21 am
Bristol 7.55 pm to 8.36 am
Penzance 8.00 pm to 8.33 am

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fog; r, rain; s, sun.
Belfast 11.52 Newcastle 10.60
Birmingham 13.58 Newcastle 10.60
Blackpool 13.55 Jersey 11.52
Bristol 14.57 London 12.54
Cardiff 13.55 Newcastle 11.52
Edinburgh 11.52 Newcastle 11.52
Glasgow 11.54 Inverness 12.54

Portfolio Gold
Times Portfolio Gold rules are as follows:
1. The Times Portfolio is free. Purchase of the Times is not a condition of membership.
2. Times Portfolio Gold comprises a number of shares listed on the Stock Exchange and quoted in the Times. The shares are held in a trust for the benefit of the members of the Times Portfolio Gold. The trust is managed by a trustee who is appointed by the members of the Times Portfolio Gold.
3. Times Portfolio Gold will be the figure in pence which represents the value of the shares in the Times Portfolio Gold. The figure will be the largest figure or lowest loss of a share in the Times Portfolio Gold. The figure will be rounded up or down to the nearest pence.
4. The figure will be published in the Times Portfolio Gold.
5. The figure will be published in the Times Portfolio Gold.
6. The figure will be published in the Times Portfolio Gold.
7. All claims are subject to scrutiny before payment. Any Times Portfolio Gold member who has not received his share of the Times Portfolio Gold must claim his share by instructing his bank to pay the share to his account.
8. How to play - Weekly Dividend: On each day of the week, the most recent figures for the Times Portfolio Gold are published in the Times Portfolio Gold. The figures are published in the Times Portfolio Gold. The figures are published in the Times Portfolio Gold.
9. If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won. You must claim your share of the Times Portfolio Gold by instructing your bank to pay the share to your account. The share will be paid to your account within 10 days of the date of the Times Portfolio Gold.
10. The share will be paid to your account within 10 days of the date of the Times Portfolio Gold.
11. If for any reason the Times Portfolio Gold is suspended for a day, the normal way Times Portfolio will be suspended for that day.

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Tachygraph fee
The maximum fee charged by approved tachygraph centres for tachygraph calibration will be increased from £26.80 to £28.80 (plus VAT) from October 1.
The maximum fee for the two yearly tachygraph inspection, calculated as a proportion of the calibration fee, will be increased from £11.50 to £12.32 (plus VAT).
The new fees have been set after consultation with organisations such as the Motor Agents Association, the Road Haulage Association and the Freight Transport Association.

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High Tides

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts shown in solid lines. High and low tide times are given in minutes past or before the hour. Wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. Temperature circled.

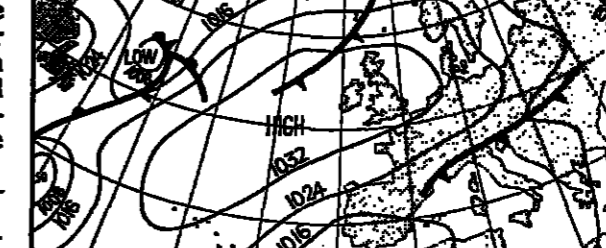


Table with 4 columns: Location, AM, PM, HT, FT. Lists tide times for various locations like London Bridge, Aberdeen, Belfast, etc.

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Today's events

Royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, Patron, The British Lung Foundation, visits the foundation, Brompton Hospital, Fulham Rd, SW7, 10.
Princess Anne visits Birmingham, she opens Lightfoot House, the new Carr-Gomm (Midlands) Society's home, Kites Green, 10.30; and then visits HM Prison Winson Green, 12; later she opens Parklands Housing Society's Sheltered Housing Scheme, Pelsall, Walsall, 3.30.
Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Patron in Chief, Scottish Veterans' Residences, visits Whiteford House, Edinburgh, 11; and Murray Home, Edinburgh, 3.30.
The Duchess of Kent visits Ford's Halewood, Merseyside, 11; and later opens the Carers'

New exhibitions

Gale & Polden Remembered: Main Hall, Aldershot Public Library; Thurs 12 to 7, Fri 10 to 7, Sat 10 to 4, Mon and Tues 10 to 5 (ends Sept 23).
Prize winning entries from this year's Leeds Photographic Society competition; City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Wed 10 to 9, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Oct 18).
Photography by Eric Winter and Edna Linnell; Duke of York, Tewkesbury; Mon to Sun 10.30 to 2.30 and 6 to 10.30 (ends Sept 27).
Tewkesbury Domesday; Town Museum, Tewkesbury; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Sept 27).
Exhibitions in progress
1100 Years of Minting History; The Royal Mint's anniversary exhibition records the history of minting from Roman times to the present day; Main Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Oct 10).
William Barnes of Dorset: poet, painter, scholar and artist; Dorset County Museum, High St, West Dorchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5 (ends Oct 4).
Life and Landscape: art and photography in East Anglia by P.H. Emerson; Salisbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, Norwich; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Oct 26).
Lighting Up the Landscape: French impressionism and its origins; National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Oct 19).
History of Shell Collecting; Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 28).
William Hogarth 1697-1764 (ends Dec 1); Rembrandt 1666-1689 (ends Nov 1); The Whitworth Art Gallery, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 1 and 2 to 5 (ends Oct 4).
Jonas Suederhoff; Charrington Print Room (ends Oct 19); The British School at Athens; a hundred years of discovery in Greece (ends Dec 23); Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 2, Sun 2 to 5. Last chance to see
Caerleon-Isca: Revealing the Past; Roman Legionary Museum, Caerleon, Gwent, 10 to 1 and 2 to 5.
Items from the Brydon Collection: late 18th century domestic ware; Old Gala House, Scott Crescent, Galashiels; 2 to 4, 6.30 to 8.
Music
Concert by the Hampshire County Youth Orchestra; Salisbury Cathedral, 7.30.
Organ recital by Douglas Lawrence; Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, 8.
Organ recital by William Brown; Parish Church, Swanage, 8.
RAFA Band Concert; Winter Gardens, Margate, 7.30.
Talks, lectures
Joys and perils of stately homes by Caroline Johnson; Lake District National Visitor Centre, Brockhole, Windermere, 1.30.

The pound

Table with 3 columns: Bank, Buy, Sell. Lists exchange rates for various banks and currencies.

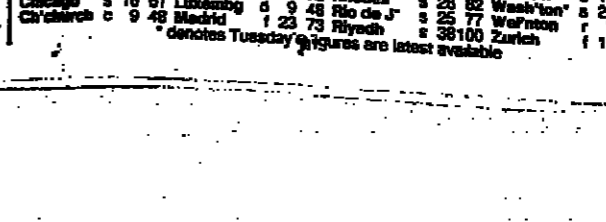
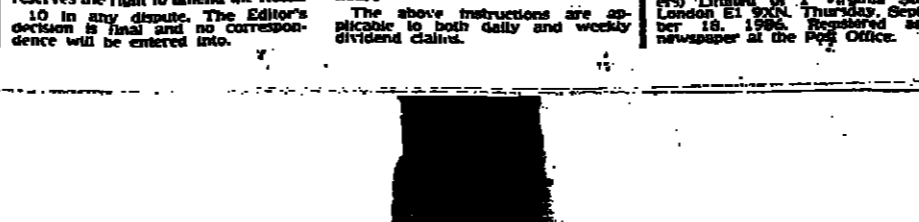
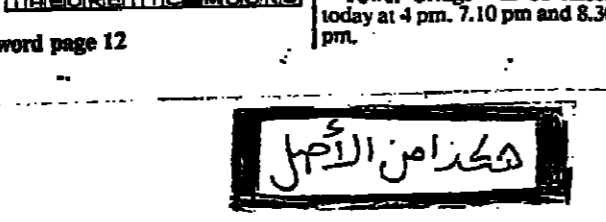
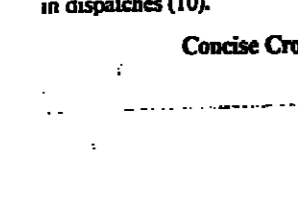
Plates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Retail Price Index: 288.9.
London: The FT Index closed up 13.0 at 1273.2.

Tower Bridge

Tower Bridge will be raised today at 4 pm, 7.10 pm and 8.30 pm.

Concise Crossword page 12

DOWN
2 Nothing raised against direction to develop (6).
3 Bicyclist Pearl led astray? (8).
4 Declaration about mention in dispatches (10).



Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET FT 30 Share 1275.2 (+13.0) FT-SE 100 1610.4 (+13.7) Bargains 20348 USM (Datastream) 124.08 (-0.15) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4755 (+0.0010) W German mark 2.9918 (-0.0290) Trade-weighted 70.3 (-0.6)

NatWest aims to be first with US share issue

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent National Westminster Bank yesterday applied to the American authorities for a listing on the New York stock market and permission to issue shares, worth around £121 million, which would make it the first foreign bank to issue equity securities in the US.

Fund finds no takers

The Electra Candover Direct Investment Plan, a £250 million fund run jointly by Candover Investments and Electra Investment Trust, said yesterday it had found no suitable homes for its money in the first half of this year, despite the prevailing penchant for managers to take over their companies.

Christina is one in a 1,000



Mrs Christina Jenkins, a production accountant, is the 1,000th woman member of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants.

Reckitt rise

Reckitt & Colman, the household products, food and pharmaceuticals group, announced interim pretax profits up 15 per cent to £66.5 million, on turnover for the six months to July 5 down 4 per cent to £636 million.

UB rises 31%

United Biscuits, Britain's largest biscuit manufacturer, made pretax profits in the first half of £47.6 million, a rise of 31 per cent on sales 3.5 per cent lower at £957.7 million.

Yule Catto

Yule Catto & Co reported a pretax profit of £4.93 million in the six months to June 30, up from £4.85 million a year earlier.

Copy News 22 Traded Opts 23 Money Markets 23 Wall Street 24 USM Prices 23 Futures 24 Commodities 23 Commercial Stock Market 23 Property 25 Comment 23 Unit Trains 26 Foreign Exch 23 Share Prices 27

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS New York Dow Jones 1789.23 (+10.69) Tokyo Nikkei Dow 17336.82 (-126.57) Hong Kong Hang Seng 1921.89 (-5.98) Amsterdam Gen 282.5 (-5.8) Sydney: AO 1214.2 (-7.5) Frankfurt Commerzbank 1992.4 (-42.6) Brussels General 3928.88 (-22.1) Paris: CAC 377.9 (+0.9) Zurich: n/a S&A General n/a London closing prices Page 27

INTEREST RATES London: Bank Base: 10% 3-month Interbank 10-9 1/4% 3-month eligible bills: 9 1/4-9 1/2% buying rate US: Prime Rate 7.50% Federal Funds 5 1/4% 3-month Treasury Bills 5.12-5.11% 30-year bonds 9 1/2-9 5/8%

CURRENCIES London: New York £: \$1.4755 £: DM2.9918 £: Sfr2.4161 £: FF9.804 £: Yen223.33 ECU: £0.69895 SDR: £0.816412

Borrowing ban on five nations

By David Smith Economics Correspondent Five members of the International Monetary Fund are now ineligible for further borrowing, according to the IMF annual report, published yesterday.

Rules for Big Bang 'will hit exports'

By David Young Britain's industrialists have warned the Government that much of their day-to-day operations and efforts to boost export business will be hampered by the new rules governing operations in the City after the October 27 Big Bang.

Hotline for businesses

By Teresa Poole British Telecom yesterday entered the fiercely competitive business information market with the launch of Hotline, an information storage and retrieval service.

Foreign shares problem for new-style Stock Exchange

By Lawrence Lever The Securities and Investments Board, the investor protection watchdog, has agreed to extend the time for the intended International Stock Exchange to bring its trade reporting systems into line with the SIB's requirements.



Stores of confidence: Sir Kenneth Durham, chairman of Woolworth Holdings yesterday (Photograph: John Manning).

Comet leads Woolworth surge

By Alexandra Jackson ahead of last year's restated £11 million. Turnover increased from £769.4 million to £814.6 million. The dividend was increased from 3p to 5p.

Industrial production levels out

By David Smith Economics Correspondent Industrial output in Britain is flat despite an erratic rise in production in July, officials believe.

Clark warns Gatt over protectionism

From Bailey Morris Punta del Este, Uruguay. Britain and other countries would suffer more hardship now than during the Great Depression if the world trading system collapsed under a flood of protectionist actions.

A mixture from the insurers

By Alison Eadie Insurance results released yesterday had a mixed reception on the stock market.

Hotline for businesses

The service, aimed initially at the British and European markets, will compete with Thorn EMI's Datasolve electronic publishing activities, Pergamon's Infoline, and many of the large American companies.

Hotline for businesses

It was originally planned for launch in April, but was held up by proposals from Datasolve that the two companies should develop their electronic publishing interests as a joint venture.

Hotline for businesses

Mr Nickson said last night: "It is vital that Government should act quickly to remove this nonsense."

Hotline for businesses

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AA High Growth lump sum investment. The Fund that has grown by 250% in 7 years. With AA Guardian Royal Exchange's High Growth Investment Bond, a £10,000 investment made in 1979 would be worth £36,715 today...

M6 Cash and Carry lifts profit

By Our City Staff

Growth in sales of products with higher profit margins helped M6 Cash and Carry to increase operating profit to £411,000 in the 28 weeks to July 12, compared with £371,000 a year earlier.

Turnover, meanwhile, dropped slightly to £30.15 million from £30.41 million. The interim dividend of 1.06p is payable on November 3.

The growth in sales of higher margin products such as furniture, non-foods and alcoholic drinks has compensated for reductions in groceries and provisions.

An exceptional stock provision of £100,000 was made against a certain range of toys in the first half of 1985. A satisfactory arrangement has been made with the supplier and the stock disposed of, resulting in an exceptional credit of £53,000.

Kellogg quote is suspended

The shares in Mr Nick Oppenheim's Kellogg Trust have been suspended after the company confirmed reports that it was likely to be taken over by London & Edinburgh Trust, the fast-growing property group run by brothers Mr John Beckwith and Mr Peter Beckwith.

If talks are successful, LET will buy shares in Kellogg and reverse its financial services interests into the company. That will be followed by a general offer for Kellogg and a capital reorganization, including a five-for-one share-split.

LET intends to maintain a listing for Kellogg, a debt factoring group, after the deals are completed.

UK taxes 'on a par with average of Western world'

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Britain is not a high tax country, according to the latest comparative figures from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris.

In the annual league table drawn up by the OECD, Britain occupies a middle position, with tax revenues accounting for just above 38 per cent of national income.

Britain's figure is well below the Scandinavian countries, all with tax revenues of close to 50 per cent of national income. It is roughly the same as West Germany, but well above Japan and the US.

The average for the Western industrialized countries which make up the OECD is for total taxation of around 37 per cent of national income.

The OECD's Revenue Statistics also show what types of taxation are used. In a comparison of tax receipts in 1984, the report shows that in Britain 38.2 per cent of taxation is on income and company profits, although to this can be added the other direct form of personal taxation, national insurance, which accounts for a further 18.1 per cent.

Indirect taxation - value-added tax and excise duties - provided 30.5 per cent of total tax receipts, while the remaining 12.2 per cent came from property taxes.

The figures suggest that the balance between direct taxation, those on income and profits, and indirect, those on

	RELATIVE TAX BURDENS				
	(As % of gross domestic product)				
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984 1985
Sweden	49.36	51.05	49.92	50.59	50.46
Denmark	45.48	45.34	44.48	46.47	48.02
Norway	47.10	48.67	47.92	46.66	48.41
Netherlands	45.82	45.19	45.43	47.03	45.54
France	42.53	42.80	43.79	44.57	45.49
Italy	33.21	36.14	38.91	42.10	41.17
Ireland	34.04	35.27	37.03	38.70	39.49
United Kingdom	35.33	35.51	35.27	37.91	38.51
Germany	38.00	37.57	37.44	37.45	37.73
Canada	32.05	34.07	33.74	33.37	33.12
Switzerland	30.78	30.56	31.00	31.58	32.18
United States	30.35	30.77	30.55	29.03	28.99
Japan	25.45	26.24	26.66	27.20	27.38
OECD average	35.26	36.21	36.56	36.94	37.11

Source: OECD, ranked by 1984 figures

spending, is not badly wrong in Britain. It has been an aim of this Government to tilt the burden in favour of more indirect taxation.

In the US, income, profits and social security taxes accounted for 71.5 per cent of federal revenues, compared with 18.2 per cent for taxes on goods and services. The comparison is, however, complicated by the incidence of state indirect taxation.

Even so, in Japan only 15 per cent of tax revenues are from the spending taxes, while in West Germany the figure is 27 per cent.

In several countries, including the Scandinavian countries and Spain, direct taxation accounts for about 70 per cent of total revenues.

Twenty years ago, in the OECD countries, tax revenues were equivalent to about 27 per cent of national income.

Ten years later, the figure had increased to 33 per cent. The latest complete figure, for 1984, is more than 37 per cent.

In Britain, the latest estimate of the tax burden, 38.58 per cent of national income last year, is an increase on the two previous years, but is not the highest level ever. In 1982, tax revenues were equivalent to 39.27 per cent.

In the mid-1960s, tax revenues were equal to just above 30 per cent.

The US is the only important economy to have achieved a reversal in the rising taxation trend. Its tax as a proportion of national income has fallen continuously over the past three years as a result of President Reagan's tax cuts. The ratio of tax to national income, 28.99 per cent in 1984, is only 2.7 percentage points higher than its level 20 years earlier.

Decline in cider sales reversed

By Derek Harris

Industrial Editor

Britain's three million cider drinkers are raising their glasses at a greater rate this year after a near 4 per cent drop in consumption in 1985.

Since 1974 and discounting the setback in 1985, cider has seen annual sales increases of between 10 per cent and 20 per cent in contrast to beer where sales overall have declined. Only lager beers have increased their sales.

Cider sales so far this year are up one per cent and there is a prospect that by the year end sales will be up by about 2 per cent, according to Mr Gray Olliver, marketing director of Showersing, the Allied-Lyons subsidiary.

Mr Olliver was speaking at a cider survey held recently. The Showersing survey was the first of what will become a regular event looking at the market overall. Cider is a key market worth £375 million a year in sales, which means spending is about equal to cognac and brandy.

The improvement in cider sales this year has depended on a number of factors, one of them being better summer weather. No additional Budget taxation, less promotional activity by lager makers and increased advertising spending by cider manufacturers were all thought to contribute to the sales rise for cider.

It is estimated that Allied-Lyons, Bulmers and Tantom Cider, the big three cider makers, have spent about £10 million on consumer advertising this summer. This almost doubles the amount spent over the same period last year.

Geoffrey Kent joins Corah

Mr Geoffrey Kent, former chairman and chief executive of the Imperial Group, has joined the board of Corah as a non-executive director.

He is also a director of Lloyds Bank and Lloyds Merchant Bank Holdings.

Namemakers: Mr David Reed is assigned to the board as a director.

Royal Armouries: Lord Eden of Winton takes over as chairman.

Arthur Andersen, Management Consultants: Mr Andrew Hunter and Mr Sushinder Khanna are made partners.

Arthur Andersen, Chartered Accountants: Mr Anthony Brierley, Mr Joseph Conneely, Mr Stephen Kingsley, Mr Iain Muir, Mr David Oliver, Mr Philip Randall, Mr Charles Rasche, Mr Peter Ridley, Mr David Webster and Mr Brian Whitefoot become partners.

Walters Samson Group: Mr Simon H J Codrington is assigned to the board. Mr Andrew S Brode is made managing director of Park Place. Miss Petra A Sefton becomes managing director of Croner Publications, succeeding Mr Brode.

Clarkson Puckle Group: Mr A D Barraclough takes over as managing director.

Stanleys & Simpson, North: Mr Andrew Kennedy is appointed senior partner from October 1, succeeding Mr John Allen.

Powell Duffryn Wagon Company: Mr Alan Harding joins the board. Mr Richard Buttigieg becomes sales director.

Universal News Services: Mr Robert Simpson is promoted to managing director.

Bruntons (Musselburgh): Mr J W D Ewart is made chairman, Mr G R Logan

APPOINTMENTS

Brown takes over as deputy chairman and Mr J M Leigh becomes a director.

EIS Group: Mr M L G Boughton is assigned to the board.

Bankers Trust Company: Mr Colin Keer becomes managing director.

Automated Packaging Systems: Mr J M Leigh becomes chairman and managing director of the bank on December 1 and will be made deputy chairman and chief executive of the group. Mr Bob Aldworth takes over as chairman of The Hill Samuel Group (SA) from October 1.

Foster Wheeler: Mr William C Chatman is made chief executive from October 1.

Evered Holdings: Mr John S Singleton becomes chairman and divisional chief executive.

Arbutnot Latham Bank: Mr Tim Worledge is promoted to assistant director, corporate finance.

Alfred McAlpine: Sir Timothy Kitson takes over as a non-executive director.

The Rugby Portland Cement: Dr J L Hill is made company secretary.

Matheson & Co: Mr Paul Tagg and Mr Nicholas Hayes join the board of Matheson Investment Management. Mr Charles Orme, Mr Tom Pigott and Mr John Chappell are assigned to the board of Orme & Co.

Ladbroke Hotels: Mr Andrew Bould becomes sales and marketing director.

Marsh Financial Management: Mr David Croft is made sales and marketing director and Mr Ron Butler becomes financial director.

Mr Trevor Rider takes over as administrative director, a Quintia Club and Old Course Golf & Country Club.

Mr Ray Knight is promoted to sales and marketing director. Miss Paula Woodgate becomes membership services director.

Next: Mr David Charles Jones, Mr Peter Francis Lomas and Mr John Herbert Whitmarsh have been named as executive directors. Mr Herbert John Hanna becomes a non-executive director.

The Hill Samuel Group (SA) and Hill Samuel Merchant Bank (SA): Mr Laurie Korsten is to join the boards from October 1. He will

become chairman and managing director of the bank on December 1 and will be made deputy chairman and chief executive of the group. Mr Bob Aldworth takes over as chairman of The Hill Samuel Group (SA) from October 1.

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Creating strong brands pays dividends

UNITED BISCUITS INTERIM REPORT 1986

The Group pre-tax profit for the half year at £47.6m is 31% higher than for the same period last year. The reduced interest charge, resulting from the proceeds of the rights issue in April 1985 and from lower interest rates, benefited the pre-tax profit by £5.7m.

Trading profit showed a very satisfactory increase of £5.6m to £53.9m (+12%) and, had the dollar been at the same average exchange rate as in 1985, it would have benefited by an additional £4.1m to show an increase of 20%.

The highlight of the half year's results has been the excellent profit performance by Keebler which, in dollar terms, exceeded last year by 48%. This achievement, together with the profit from the Early California Olive business acquired in October 1985, represents the major contribution to the trading profit increase.

While trading profit should show a similar percentage increase, the second half year will not benefit to the same extent from a reduction in the interest charge. As a result we do not anticipate pre-tax profits rising by the same percentage as in the first half.

Announcing a 23% increase in the interim dividend to 3.5p per share, Sir Hector Laing, Chairman, said 'The second half year has started well and we are on target to achieve a very satisfactory profit performance for the year as a whole.'

UB United Biscuits

McVITIE'S • CRAWFORDS • TERRY'S • KP • PIZZALAND • WIMPY • KEEBLER •

The full interim report is being posted to shareholders and copies are available from the Company Secretary, United Biscuits (Holdings) plc, Grant House, PO, Box 40, Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN.

COMPANY NEWS

● E T SUTHERLAND: Interim dividend 1.46p (same), payable on Nov. 21. Turnover for the first half of 1986 £10.9 million (£11.13 million). Pretax profit £160,000 (£698,000). Earnings per share 0.67p (2.73p). So far in the second half, sales are running slightly under budget, but the board, nevertheless, expects a better trading outcome than in the comparative period of 1985.

● STAR COMPUTER: The company has agreed to acquire 51 per cent of Connect Data's capital. The initial consideration is £100,000 cash, with a further consideration (a maximum of £480,000) based on profits. Based on current forecasts, this further consideration would be unlikely to exceed £193,000.

● DOWNTREE MACKINTOSH: Norgen-Vaaz, a chain of ice cream shops in Australia, has been bought. The business, which was owned jointly by Coles Myer and a private company, will be wholly-owned by Kowtree, but the association with Coles will continue through the operation of "in store" outlets. Norgen-Vaaz's turnover in the year to June 30 was Aus\$7 million (£3 million).

● PELICOT TALBOT MOTOR CO: Turnover for the six months to June 30 £313.62 million (£226.96 million). Gross profit £57.77 million (£41.42 million). Net loss £8.27 million (£13.06 million). The board is confident that the group's performance will continue to improve in Britain and that prospects are good.

● SPP: The company has agreed to buy the business and certain assets of American Fire Pumps of Tennessee, US, for \$1.25 million (£846,000). This is part of SPP's strategy of expanding into fire-fighting markets. SPP is already a producer of fire-fighting equipment through Godiva Fire Pumps.

● ISLE OF MAN STEAM PACKET CO: Six months to June 30. Turnover £7.52 million (£6.16 million). Pretax loss £1.41 million (£1.82 million). Loss per ordinary £1 stock unit, before extraordinary items, 38p (61p) and after, 38p (96p). Although there is still some way to go on the road to recovery, the directors are satisfied that 1986 will be a turning point in the company's fortunes.

● BP MINERALS AUSTRALIA: The company has taken a 51 per cent share in the Sandhurst Gold joint venture, which has been set up to investigate and develop a new gold project in the state of Victoria. Gold will be recovered using a new process, developed by BP, which avoids the use of cyanide or other chemicals.

● LEE INTERNATIONAL: Dividend, 1.5p for the year to May 31. Turnover £38.12 million (£23.39 million). Pretax profit £6.91 million (£4.98 million). Earnings per share 11.05p (8.1p). The board reports that both turnover and pretax profits are significantly ahead of the forecast made in the prospectus in March. With the recent acquisitions, expansion and streamlining of existing activities, it is confident that 1987 will be another successful year.

● OWNERS ABROAD GROUP: Turnover for the first half of 1986 £52.9 million (£44.73 million). Pretax profit £481,000 (£325,000). Earnings per share 0.52p (0.35p).

● SCOTIA HERITABLE TRUST: Interim dividend 1.6p (1.4p) for six months to June 30. Turnover £29.53 million (£16.88 million). Pretax profit on ordinary activities £2.01 million (£1.34 million). Earnings per share 5.3p (5.4p).

● MUCKLOW: Total dividend 5.4p (5.05p) for the year to June 30. Gross rental income £7.66 million (£6.91 million). Pretax profit £5.37 million (£5.11 million). Earnings per share 7.01p (6.54p). The board reports that present indications are that there will be a further improvement in pretax profits in the current year.

● TRADE INDEMNITY: Six months to June 30. Interim dividend 1.85p (1.41p, adjusted). Premiums written on the three open underwriting accounts totalled £35.3 million (£31.5 million). After reinsurance, Trade Indemnity retained £15.87 million (£13.19 million). The 1984 underwriting account retained £1.1 million (£1.1 million). The 1985 underwriting account showed a credit balance of £7.63 million (1984: £6.16 million).

● ICELAND FROZEN FOODS: Interim dividend 2.5p (2.2p) for the 26 weeks to June 28. Turnover £49.98 million (£36.67 million). Pretax profit £2.15 million (£1.71 million). Earnings per share 11.05p (10.89p). A one-for-one scrip issue is proposed.

● ABACO INVESTMENTS: Year to June 30. Total dividend, 0.2p (0.14p). Turnover £16.8 million (£4.85 million). Pretax profit £1.34 million (£657,000). Earnings per share (before extraordinary items) 1.14p (0.70p).

● CITY OF ABERDEEN LAND ASSOCIATION: Year to June 30. Total dividend 18.5p (16p, adjusted). Turnover £28.17 million (£19.49 million). Pretax profit £3.1 million (£2.3 million). Earnings per share 85.9p (70.2p). The board proposes a one-for-10 subdivision of the shares.

● OXFAM INTERNATIONAL: First half of 1986. Interim dividend 11p (9.5p). Sales £25.59 million (£15.29 million). Pretax profit £3.24 million (£2.52 million). Earnings per share 26.5p (21.4p).

● MACRO: Dividend of 0.75p for the year to June 30, payable on Nov. 14. Turnover £6.8 million (£5.41 million). Pretax profit £3.46 million (£1.92 million). Earnings per share, before exceptional item, 7.9p (5.7p) and after, 10.3p (5.7p).

● INTERNATIONAL SIGNAL AND CONTROL: A subsidiary, has completed the acquisition of Cardion Electronics from General Signal. The final purchase price was \$16.8 million (£11.37 million).

● JOHN CROWTHER GROUP: Interim dividend 1p (nil) for the first half of 1986. Turnover £83.02 million (£42.69 million). Pretax profit £3.64 million (£1.78 million). Earnings per share 4.43p (2.61p).

● METSEC: Six months to June 30. Interim dividend 1.3p. Net turnover £7.59 million (£7.7 million). Pretax profit £602,000 (£776,000). Earnings per share 3.02p (3.80p).

ZETTERS GROUP PLC

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31.3.86:

EARNINGS PER SHARE - UP 39%

DIVIDENDS FOR

هكذا من الأمل

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Elders emerges as favourite to bid for Courage brewery

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

Lord Hanson will announce today the sale of his Courage public houses and brewing group in a £1.4 billion deal.

News of the deal will bring to an end weeks of speculation as to who would be the eventual buyer of Courage, acquired by Hanson Trust earlier this year as part of the £2.8 billion Imperial package.

Front-runner in the Courage auction is the Australian Mr John Elliott of Elders IXL, who had previously been chasing Allied Lyons.

Offers from the US drinks group Anheuser-Busch, best known for its Budweiser beer and Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur.

The sale of Courage will give Lord Hanson some £3 billion of cash in hand - he raised £1 billion from the sale of SCM in America and a further £500,000 from other disposals - and will enable him to make another sizeable acquisition, without going back on assurances to the City that he will not issue any more Hanson paper for the rest of the year.

This fresh cash injection will bring Hanson Trust's gearing down from 70 per cent to about 15 per cent and, together with the soon-to-be-issued American Depository Receipts, will pave the way for

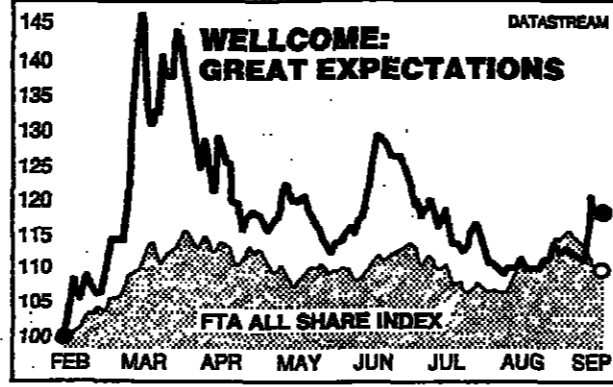
an acquisition of about £2 billion. Most analysts think Lord Hanson will make his next move in the US.

Hanson's shares firmed 3p to 193p. The news, if confirmed, will have a bad effect on Allied Lyons shares, where Elliott had been expected to return to the bid fray. Yesterday Allied's shares were 8p higher at 333p.

Dealers were looking a little more relaxed following the sharp fluctuations on world stock market over the past week. Investors in London took their cue from a steadier overnight performance on Wall Street. Selective support for the leaders following attempts at bear-raising by US arbitrageurs enabled the FT Index of 30 shares to close at its high for the day, 13.0 up at 1,275.2. The broader-based FT-SE 100 rose by 13.7 to 1,610.4.

Attempts at a rally by Government securities during mid-afternoon soon ran out of steam. Prices at the longer end of the market finished 1/8 down. Sentiment was hit by reports that the Bundesbank is resisting American pressure to lower west German interest rates.

This means that any prospect of an early cut in domestic bank base rates has again receded.



A meeting of the American National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Washington this afternoon should give a boost to Wellcome, the pharmaceutical company. The meeting is expected to give the go-ahead to the next stage of clinical trials for its revolutionary anti-AIDS drug, Wellcome's shares rose 11p to 200p on whispers of a bullish statement.

KCI climbed 33p to 1064p on the back of the German market which went to a new high against sterling. The chemicals combine generates 30 per cent of its earnings in Germany. Following a brokers' visit to Jaguar's Coventry plant, to view the new XJ40 model due to be launched next month, the car company's shares put on 10p, to touch 513p.

National Westminster Bank received an early fall to close 2p up at 534p. The group is seeking a listing for its shares in New York and is taking the opportunity to raise £121 million of extra funds. The group has already applied to the New York Stock Exchange for an American Depository Receipt facility. Each ADR will be equivalent to three ordinary shares. The shares will be issued in dollars at equivalent to the closing price in London prior to the issue.

NatWest plans to use the proceeds from the issue to expand its interests in the US financial markets. The other clearers closed mixed. Barclays firmed 2p to 494p, as did Lloyds at 444p. But Midland was unchanged at 534p. The closing date for share applications is still a week

away, but in the 'grey market' the 30p partly-paid shares in the Trustee Savings Bank continue to trade at more than double the offer-for-sale price. Prior Harwin, a licensed dealer, has now joined the list of dealers now ready to make a market before official dealings begin and is enjoying a steady flow of business.

Mr Tony Prior, the firm's chairman, said: 'We've been dealing entirely with professionals.'

As we forecast, the shares of Peak Holdings returned from suspension 7p lower at 12p following details of the group's

Grand Metropolitan, the hotel and brewing group, climbed 13p to 408p amid speculation, later denied by the company, that it was to sell its intercontinental hotel chain. The company has been keeping a wary eye on producers in recent weeks with Philip Morris, the US tobacco group, a favourite to bid. There is also talk that a leading broker is to downgrade its profit forecast for the group.

financial reconstruction. But they later rallied and ended the day 10p clearer at 224p. Cable & Wireless recovered its composure after an early mark-down following a downgrading of estimates by Phillips & Drew, the broker. P & D has lopped £20 million from its estimate of pretax profits for the current year to March 31 of £370 million. That compares with last year's figure of £295 million. The downgrading now takes into account possible currency losses and brings P & D into line with other brokers' estimates.

P & D is still worried about political factors, which have already taken their toll of rival British Telecom and includes the possible nationalization of its Mercury subsidiary. But the shares are still regarded as attractive over the long-term. Meanwhile, shares of USM-quoted Securitag Group, the security and industrial cleaning company, are also enjoying renewed institutional support. Yesterday they hit a new peak with a rise of 4p to 115p.

The group has now fully recovered from the effects of the problems following the acquisition of Consolidated Safeguards and is back on a growth track. Pretax profits for the current year should hit a record £1 million compared with £720,000 last time and dealers claim the shares could reach 200p in the New Year.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet United Biscuits still seeks quantum leap

Sir Hector Laing's grand plan of merging with Imperial to feed the Third World may have failed, but United Biscuits is doing a creditable job of feeding mouths in the Western world with an ever-increasing assortment of crisps, nuts, snacks and, of course, biscuits.

Yesterday's interim figures, which showed a 31 per cent increase in taxable profits to £47.6 million, have laid to rest some of the allegations made during the battle with Hanson Trust for Imperial and proved that UB can manage very nicely on its own - though that is not the end of the story. The quantum leap through a major acquisition is still a gleam in Sir Hector's eye; the problem is that Imperial was a unique opportunity.

While surveying the scene, foreign and domestic but especially the United States for significant acquisitions, it is important for UB to perform well and sharpen the company's image among influential investing institutions.

It has got away to a good start. Far from losing the soft centre cookie war in the United States, UB has won it hands down. Its American subsidiary, Keebler, has emerged as market leader with 32 per cent share, ahead of mighty Procter & Gamble in second place. P&G, ironically, is the market's favourite to bid for UB. Keebler has crossed the Rockies to supply west coast America for the first time and is expanding rapidly in the savoury snacks market, where it intends to be the second largest player - behind the dominant Frit-O-Lay, which is part of Pepsi.

At home KP crisps and nuts increased their market share, aided by industrial troubles at the rival Golden Wonder. Biscuit profits rose by 4 per cent in a slightly declining market. UB is in good financial as well as trading shape. Last year's £98 million rights issue has been applied to UK borrowings. Group gearing is down to 36 per cent from 50 per cent a year ago and will fall to 27 per cent by the year end. For the first time in many years, UB is strongly cash positive.

Capital spending is being maintained at high levels with about £124 million earmarked for this year compared with £100 million last. The advertising budget is rising by £8 million this year. Picking from Imperial - Sir Hector would dearly like Ross Foods - are unlikely to materialize. Hanson seems intent on keeping the tobacco and food businesses, but food businesses should be available from large conglomerates unwinding businesses they have decided no longer fit.

The Laing influence in UB remains paramount: the family is the largest single shareholder and Sir Hector,

himself the dominate influence in the company's thinking and thus its development, intends to stay at the helm for another five years.

He has taken in, though with some scepticism, the importance of communicating regularly with shareholders, especially fund managers, but he is still inclined to dismiss short-term performance as no more than the product of buying and selling businesses and playing about with balance sheets and profit and loss accounts.

He will continue to hammer home the corporate message of taking the long-term view, investing for the future and increasing market share to insure that there are jobs available for the next generation.

That thinking, which is estimable, should not take him away from other realities in building a business.

Sterling needs help

The twin targets of the dollar reaching DM2 and the pound falling to DM3 have been in the foreign exchange dealers' sights since they decided that the yen had been pushed as far as the Japanese government would allow and switched their attention to the German currency.

Most would have bet on the dollar benchmark being tested first - especially after the Bundesbank sold dollars last Friday. Yet even on a day of dollar weakness yesterday, sterling was the first to go. Smoothing operations by the Bank of England did little to stop the steady rot.

Whatever the Bank of England's informal and confidential trigger points for action to support sterling, it is safe to say that any fall in the sterling index below 70 would ring violent alarm bells and it only just managed to avoid that yesterday.

It is fair to say that sterling's latest humiliation was more a reflection of a strong mark than of any disastrous new developments for the generally weak pound. The German currency was fortified by the Bundesbank president, Karl Otto Poehl, who confirmed his less than surprising intention not to relax monetary policy ahead of the Group of Five meeting and the IMF annual meeting.

Smoothing was more appropriate than strong intervention by the Bank of England. The fact remains that sterling is still the only meaningful monetary indicator and is not looking good.

The point of bolstering the reserves by \$4 billion through floating rate notes was to give the Bank the option of supporting sterling in the markets rather than by raising interest rates in front of the British Gas flotation (let alone an election). The option may soon have to be taken.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues of shares, including Hughes Food, Yelverton, and various rights issues.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing sterling spot and forward rates for various countries like New York, Hong Kong, and others.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table listing other sterling rates for currencies like Argentina, Australia, and others.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table listing dollar spot rates for various countries like Ireland, Singapore, and others.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London financial futures for three-month sterling, New Month Eurodollar, and US Treasury Bond.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table listing traditional options for various companies like Allied Lyons, BP, and others.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table listing London traded options for various companies and currencies, including Allied Lyons, BP, and others.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table showing money market and gold rates, including base rates, clearing banks, and gold prices.

Advertisement for TSB Group featuring an illustration of a man in a top hat and a 'FOR SALE' sign. Text includes: 'You don't see that every day.', 'If you'd like to own shares in the TSB Group, you should apply without delay.', 'For details and an application form look in today's paper. Hand in your application at a TSB branch before the end of banking hours on Tuesday, 23rd September, 1986. Postal applications must be received no later than 10am on Wednesday, 24th September, 1986. Don't leave it too late to say yes.'

WALL STREET Early setback for Dow

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street shares dipped in early trading yesterday, with blue chips giving up some of the gains made on Tuesday. The bond market provided little support, while housing figures for last month offered few clues to the direction of interest rates and the economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.40 points at 1,777.14.

Table with columns for company names and stock prices. Includes companies like AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, etc.

Abbott Mead doubles its half-year profits

By Lawrence Lever Delaney Partnership, a rival advertising agency, said that there had been no fall out of clients from Leagus since the deal was announced in June.

Acquisitive advertising agencies have recently found their hunger blunted when clients of acquired agencies desert the agencies because of potential conflicts of interest.

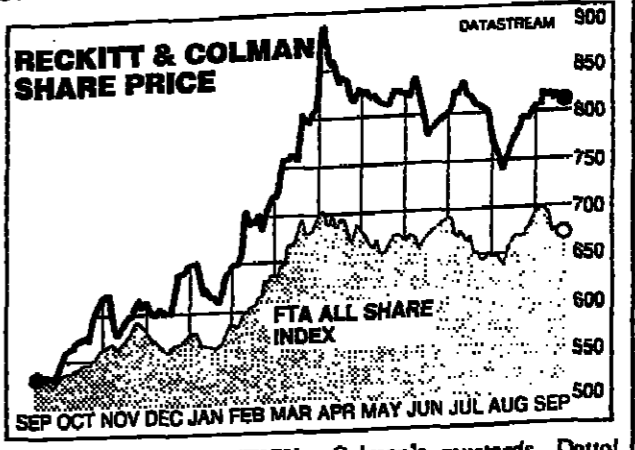
The Leagus client list includes the Nationwide Building Society and Allied Lyons, while Abbott Mead acts for the Leeds Permanent Building Society and Watney Mann & Truman.

TEMPUS Confident Woolworth should beat forecast

Worries that Woolworth Holdings would be slow to show its form post the Dixons' bid should be dispelled.

First half profits were well ahead of market expectations. The replenished management team at Woolworth is in fighting form and remains confident that it will meet the profit forecast made at the time of the bid.

There was some concern last year that the bubbling do-it-yourself market had gone off the boil but B and Q's first half figures show the business back on the growth track.



Bemrose trebles dividend

Bemrose Corporation, the printing group, has trebled its interim dividend to 3p after returning to profitability.

Turnover was £18.21 million, down from £30.40 million and operating profit rose to £829,000 from £619,000.

Hargreaves hits back at 'unfair' Coalite bid

The board of Hargreaves Group, the fuel, transport and quarrying company which is fighting off a £80.1 million bid from Coalite, yesterday told shareholders that the offer was unfair and that it totally ignored benefits still to come.

Turnover was £18.21 million, down from £30.40 million and operating profit rose to £829,000 from £619,000.

Minet Holdings

Minet Holdings' interim results undershot market estimates yesterday and the shares fell 14p to 233p.

The main disappointments were higher-than-expected expenses, adverse currency movements and no increase in the interim dividend.

Local London for USM

Brothers Robert and Graham Bourne are bringing their office development company, Local London Group, to the Unlisted Securities Market with a price tag of £6.6 million.

of the business is being placed at 135p a share. Local London converts properties into centres for small businesses. It has raised pre-tax profits from £27,000 in 1981 to £613,000 last year.

THE LEGAL & GENERAL OUTLOOK

Brighter news, despite stormy start to the year.

Despite the many severe storm and burst pipe claims we faced in the UK early in the year, the first half of 1986 has been brighter.

Although the total cost of these claims was some £8 million much of this was absorbed by increased premium rates, and the worldwide loss on short-term business has been reduced from £13m to £2.7m.

New life annual premiums rose to new levels, helped by the buoyant endowment mortgage market in the UK. Single premiums from our innovative capital transfer tax planning contract fell due to changes in the Budget, but there was an encouraging increase in other investment-related contracts.

The net profit from UK life and pensions business increased to £17.9m (£16.1m).

In local currency terms long-term profits from international operations improved but movements in sterling on foreign exchange markets led to a slight fall in reported profits.

Overall there was a jump of 52 per cent to £28.4m in the Group's worldwide pre-tax profits.

And the interim dividend payable on 1 December has been lifted to 3.25p.

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Table with columns for Half Year 1986, Half Year 1985, Full Year 1985. Rows include Pre-tax profits, Shareholders' profits, Earnings per share, Dividends, Cost of dividend.

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Form with fields for Name, Address, Postcode and a logo for Legal & General.

Advertisement for Woodchester Investments p.l.c. featuring a large 'U' logo and text about 19,210,480 ordinary shares of IR20p each.

Advertisement for GREAT PORTLAND ESTATES P.L.C. with a 'NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS' and details about a £25,000,000 9.5 per cent First Mortgage Debenture Stock.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Brit of', 'WINTER', and '18th September, 1986'.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

British investors warned of foreign market risks

By Judith Huntley

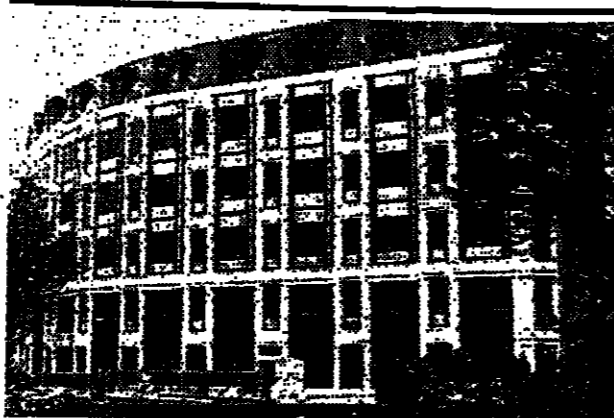
British investors keen to put their money in overseas property must be aware that it is essentially a high risk business, with the possibility, but by no means the certainty, of high rewards. So says a report published by the College of Estate Management on the British experience in overseas property investment from the 1960s to now.

The report questions the desirability of investing in property overseas. It argues that the differences between foreign markets and the UK are such that overseas property can almost be regarded as a separate investment medium rather than an adjunct to a British portfolio.

Mr Paul Batho, author of the report, says: "It is therefore questionable whether investors primarily interested in security and long-term steady growth should become involved in overseas property at all."

The British began investing in overseas property in earnest in the 1960s with Canada and Australia the prime targets. Europe took prominence in the late Sixties and early Seventies. In both cases the move abroad was led by developers.

The second significant wave of investment, directed at the United States and spearheaded by the institutions,



Station site for Sachs

Knight Frank & Rutley has leased the recently completed redevelopment above Blackfriars Station, London, to Goldman Sachs for five years. The building, owned by London Regional Transport, covers 28,000 sq ft

started in the latter end of the Seventies and the beginning of the Eighties. It arose for opportunistic reasons as the US property market was going through a depression at the time. Could the same arguments apply now?

The attraction of investing overseas, one that is dismissed as "superficial" by the report, is the higher yields on offer abroad. But Mr Batho argues that these higher yields do not represent the naïveté of local investors but are the result of sound financial reasons. Yield bases should not be directly

compared with the UK but should be judged in their local context, he argues.

And he says that the pure risk element in overseas commercial property is higher than in the UK for almost all types of property. Shorter leases, greater tenant mobility and accelerated obsolescence add up to greater risk and the need for more intensive management than in the UK.

For these reasons the report concludes that overseas property can never be as secure as that in the UK. "While this may not concern the active

investor, it is a factor that the longer-term institution seeking stable income and the possibility of growth cannot afford to ignore."

But the greater the risk, the greater the reward if things turn out well. Mr Batho believes it is the property companies and developers rather than the institutions who are better equipped to operate in such a climate.

British property companies, such as the Hammerson Property Investment and Development Corporation, MEPC, Slough Estates and Grosvenor Terrace Developments have successfully developed overseas. The report attributes this success to the fact that companies such as these have well established offices in the countries in which they invest.

Those who did not set up local networks have had problems operating in a completely different climate. And it is clear from Mr Batho's research that the British have been unable to impose their way of working on overseas markets, but have had to adapt to overseas methods, usually requiring a local partner to do so effectively.

The report also discusses the impact of currency fluctuations on the success or failure of overseas developments.

The yield shown by a property in purely local terms, those on which the British investor has to compete for purchase and sale, can be very different from the yield in sterling terms. The latter forms the basis for judging performance in relation to the portfolio as a whole.

If the investment is financed from borrowings, the relationship between income and the cost of borrowing will play a crucial role in calculations at the time of purchase.

But not all is doom and gloom in the survey. Some British developers are showing an interest in Europe again, having shunned the Continent after the market collapsed in the mid-1970s.

* The Jones Lang Wootton Travelling Scholarship. The Experience of British Investors in Overseas Commercial Property. Price £10 from the College of Estate Management, Whiteknights, Reading, RG62AW.

Derek Harris investigates forecasts for BL's successor

Mr Graham Day, Rover Group's new chairman and chief executive, was no mean wielder of the axe in search of manufacturing efficiency when he was at British Shipbuilders. After this week's announcement that Austin Rover, the volume cars subsidiary, had plunged to a first half pre-tax and before interest loss of more than £60 million, it looks as if he may well have to sharpen that expertise yet again.

By the year end Mr Day has to produce a new corporate plan to present to the Government. Either another rationalization plan to minimize the losses or a fresh injection of state aid seems inevitable.

There is no shortage of gloomy predictions that Austin Rover's losses will worsen substantially by the end of its calendar financial year. Professor Krish Bhaskar, of the University of East Anglia, a close follower of the fortunes of the motor trade, particularly Rover Group (the former BL), had been forecasting a £161 million loss for the group as a whole this year but has now marked it up to between £180 million and £200 million.

Austin Rover losses could be between £80 million and £90 million, he suggests, depending on accounting allocations and those of central costs like interest. The volume cars subsidiary's losses might even go higher, depending on sales performance in the last four months of the year, he believes.

Last year Austin Rover lost £6 million with the first half showing a £600,000 profit.

The great decline in fortunes in the first half of this year emerged this week at talks on a workforce demand for an extra £10 a week pay plus other benefits over one year for 26,000 hourly paid workers, more than two thirds of the workforce.

The company's offer of a two-year deal yielding £9 a week in the first year and then £18 a week — of which about £10 would be dependent on bonuses linked to productivity and quality — is now being considered.

The move is in line with Mr Day's strategy which has emphasized quality and reliability as the touchstones in reviving the Rover business.

For Austin Rover much depends this year on earnings gearing up from the new Rover 800 executive range, launched in July. But Austin Rover is also having to fight desperately to keep ahead of General Motors' Vauxhall and

£200m pothole ahead in Rover Group's bumpy road



In the driving seat: Graham Day, Rover Group chairman, whose strategy is to concentrate on quality and reliability.

Opel as the second-largest supplier to the British market after Ford. The price war, which shows no sign of ending, involves heavy discounting.

Discounting clearly will have accounted for some of Austin Rover's mounting losses in the first half.

But the Rover Group, which had an operating loss of £39.5 million in 1985 (the pre-tax loss was £110.3 million as Jaguar profits were removed), still has another loss maker in its trucks division. The management buyout of

Leyland Bus is removing a loss maker but Rover is to lose control of the profitable Unipart components business in this year's accounts the bus losses and the Unipart profits may to an extent balance.

On the positive side, Austin Rover has been doing better in export markets, where sales are 23 per cent up on a year ago, and there is a new opportunity in trucks with Bedford, the GM subsidiary, drawing back in the heavy and medium sector.

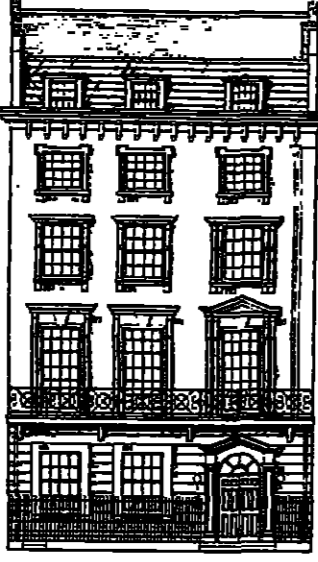
Austin Rover's market share in Britain stood at 15.9 per cent in August, compared with 17 per cent at the same time last year. This was only just ahead of GM at 14.5 per cent with Ford at 26.49 per cent.

The company had high expectations that the launch of the 800 would bring more customers to the showrooms and would have a catalytic effect in stimulating sales of the whole Austin Rover range.

Austin Rover claims it is selling all the Rover 800 cars it can produce and maintains that a shortage of models in the early days of the launch has now been overcome. The Rover 820, the lowest-priced version of the 800, is only just being produced in quantity and this is expected to be the big seller.

The July and August increases in market share may reflect some influence from the 800 launch but Austin Rover could also have been largely buying market share by deep discounting.

Clearly, in a savagely competitive climate, the decisive Mr Day will at Rover have to get particularly the volume cars in sales performance into a higher gear.



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INTERIM HIGHLIGHTS
(half year ended 2 August 1986)

- ▲ Group profits before exceptional items up from £11.8m to £23.2m.
- ▲ Earnings per share up by over 120% to 9.6p.
- ▲ B&Q retail profit up 31% to £20.6m (after internal rent).
- ▲ Comet quadruples retail profit to £3.2m (after internal rent).
- ▲ Woolworths, the High Street chain increases its retail profit before internal rent to £10.7m, with post-rental loss reduced by £6m to £8.6.
- ▲ The Group has opened 800,000 square feet of retail space in the first six months. This expansion will continue.
- ▲ Operating Companies' retail management further strengthened by internal promotion and recruitment of proven, successful retailers.
- ▲ Interim dividend of 5.0p (1985 3.0p) per share.

"We look forward with confidence to meeting our forecast for the year of not less than £105.5m profit before exceptional items."

17 September 1986

Sir Kenneth Durham, Chairman



Copies of the full statement will be mailed to shareholders shortly or can be obtained from: Woolworth Holdings plc, Northwest House, 119 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5PX.

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is not essential, but a successful background in negotiating with people in an upmarket environment is. Examples of suitable backgrounds include advertising, life assurance, public relations, employment agency, banking.

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The Queen Elizabeth Geriatric Centre, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia is seeking graduates with a W.F.O.T. (World Federation of Occupational Therapists) approved diploma or degree in occupational therapy to commence work in this stimulating work environment in 1987.

This centre comprises nursing home beds, hostel beds, 1 day hospital, 3 day centres, 43 rehabilitation beds (10 slow-stream rehabilitation) and 24 assessment beds. There is a large commitment to domiciliary and regional work with the centre providing an ongoing and increasing service to these two areas.

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Areas of work include the assessment and rehabilitation wards, the day hospital—assessment and treatment, domiciliary care, cognitive rehabilitation and regional visits. O.T.'s form part of the wheelchair clinic team and orthotics clinic team and participate in ward rounds and case conferences in all work areas. O.T.'s are represented on the centre's research committee and are actively encouraged to participate in ongoing education and in recently developed quality assurance programmes.

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Applications should be in writing and include curriculum vitae along with two written references. These are to be addressed to:

The Personnel Manager,
The Queen Elizabeth Geriatric Centre,
102 Ascot Street South,
Ballarat, Victoria 3350,
Australia.

It is anticipated that interviews will be held in London in the later months of 1986. Applicants will be further notified to arrange interview times etc.

Closing date for applications Friday, 14th November, 1986.

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FPS (MANAGEMENT) LIMITED

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY for two people (age 25+) to join West End branch of a major financial services company. Full training, rapid progression into management, equity participation.

Tel: 01-439 8431
Caroline Scott

SALES EXECUTIVES

SALES EXECUTIVE - CITY

Our client is the largest U.K. dealer & distributor of SIEMENS TELEX & FACSIMILE equipment and require 2 successful, professional achievers to join their ranks. Applications are invited from sales people with proven track records in this market, or the capital equipment field. Aged between 25 & 35 you will earn a basic of £12K - OTE £25K and quality car and normal benefits. Package is totally negotiable.

LEASING SALES EXECUTIVE

Our clients, 2 Major Financial Institutions, seek applications from ambitious, self motivated, negotiators. Aged 24-35 years, you will have involvement in this field, or the Capital Equipment market, proven ability will ensure excellent salary (£12k - £20K) + superb benefits including quality car, BUPA, commission scheme, subsidised mortgage etc.

SALES EXECUTIVE

Multinational Distributor of Power Tools, Fasteners and Fixings, require experienced sales people. Experience selling into the building market an advantage. Proven sales record, combined with enthusiasm and professional approach, will be rewarded with c.£11K, car, pension etc. Areas are: Herts, East London and South London/Kent. Aged 22-30.

FIELD SALES EXECUTIVE

Our client is a growing and dynamic company, in the Computer Consumables field, and are looking to expand their market-share in the South / South-West of England. Ideally, candidates will have a proven track record in the Computer Consumables market, or will be top-flight office equipment sales people. Age 22-30. A comprehensive package, with potential earnings of £15K-£25K, company car and pension scheme is on offer.

Please write with full c.v. or telephone:
Neil Lovegrove or Frances Mottram

CITY RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

58, Houndsditch,
London EC3A 7DL
01 623 4688.

Head of Intelligence Services

Unilever have a senior vacancy in their London Head Office for someone to manage and develop the business intelligence services of their Economics Department. The department applies economic analysis to business problems from Corporate to Operating Company levels. The successful candidate will have a key role in establishing and operating an integrated information policy and systems, including the computer support facilities required for both analytical and information purposes.

Relevant backgrounds for this challenging post include a degree in economics, wide experience of computer systems and a successful record of managing change in an information handling environment.

Salary for the right candidate, around £30,000 plus company car.

Please write with your full details to:

Professor D K Stout
Head of Economics Department
Unilever PLC, PO Box 68 Unilever House
Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BQ.



RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

£20-25,000

Chambers and Partners are one of the leading and longest-established consultancies specialising in the recruitment of lawyers. We are now expanding our offices in the City and have an opening for an additional consultant to join our team. Previous experience in recruitment would be an advantage but is not essential.

Absolute confidentiality is guaranteed: applicants should either ask to speak to Michael Chambers or write to him marking the envelope 'Addressee Only'.
74 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET. Tel: (01) 606 9371

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

MANAGER

Methods and Procedures
Substantial tax free salary and generous fringe benefits

Our client is a leading and highly respected commercial and retail bank headquartered in Kuwait. Due to internal reorganisation, they now wish to appoint a specialist to manage and motivate their Methods & Procedures Department.

Reporting directly to the general management of the bank, the incumbent will have the opportunity to train and lead the junior team members and be given full responsibility for the efficient running of the department on a day-to-day basis. In addition to normal organisation and methods type responsibilities, the department is responsible for the centralisation and development of all Personal Computer operations in the Bank.

The prospective candidates will probably hold a formal qualification and will have a minimum of seven years' related experience, gained either within a banking or a general financial field.

Interested applicants should send a detailed Curriculum Vitae to Robert Watsham, Director, who is advising the bank in this matter, at Jonathan Wren International Ltd, 170 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4LX, tel: 01-623 1266, fax: 6954673 WRENCO.

Jonathan Wren International Ltd
Banking Consultants

A change of direction

If your career is at a dead end and you are considering a change of direction this could be the opportunity you are looking for.

Opportunities exist for self assured people with ability and business acumen to train for a career within the financial services industry.

Exciting opportunities for personal success and career development are linked with excellent training and the prospect of a very high income.

Without obligation, find out about our direction.

Please phone Keith Punt on 01-734 6860. (London and Home Counties only).

We are an equal opportunities Group. Applications are welcome regardless of sex, marital status, ethnic origin or disability.



PORTMAN BANKING

TRAINEE RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
£8,000

We are a highly successful Holborn based Consultancy specialising in temporary staff with an excellent reputation in Central London.

Due to rapid expansion, we now require an intelligent self-motivated trainee to join our busy professional team.

The ideal candidate will preferably have A-Levels and 1 to 2 years work experience within a sales/admin environment, and be aged 19-22.

For further details ring in confidence, Jacque Jones on 01 430 1711.

Personnel Recruitment Services Limited
Tel: 01-236 1133

PORTMAN BANKING

RECEPTIONIST ADMINISTRATOR
£7,000 NEG

We are a well-established City Recruitment Consultancy and we urgently require a receptionist administrator to assist our small team of consultants.

Candidates must possess accurate typing and will ideally have some experience of WP although training will be provided if necessary. A good telephone manner and excellent organisational abilities are essential as there will be a high level of client contact. Minimum of 5 'O' Levels including Maths and English, 'A' Levels are preferable. An excellent college leaver will be considered.

Personnel Recruitment Services Limited
Tel: 01-236 1133

PORTMAN BANKING

ASSISTANT TEMP CONTROLLER
£9,000 PLUS GENEROUS PACKAGE

We are a highly successful Holborn based Consultancy specialising in temporary staff with an excellent reputation in Central London.

Due to rapid expansion, we now require an additional temp controller. The ideal candidate will be in their early 20's, have a good 'O/A' Level education and a minimum 6 months to 1 year's experience in a temp consultancy environment. You must be willing to work as part of a busy professional team and be able to deviate and maintain your own client base and have a good sense of humour.

For further details, ring in confidence, Jacque Jones on 01 430 1711.

Personnel Recruitment Services Limited
Tel: 01-236 1133

RETIRED EXECUTIVES

We need your help to promote Lifeline Alarm Appeals at City and District Council level throughout the UK. 'Lifeline' is an emergency communications system for the elderly.

People from Industry, the Professions, Commerce and Government Service are particularly welcome. You will need an outgoing personality, enormous enthusiasm and well developed communication skills.

Whilst the work is voluntary, involving a couple of days a week, all normal out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed. The real reward will be the enormous personal satisfaction of bringing to fruition a vital part of the charity's objectives.

If available, a CV would be most helpful. Interviews will be arranged locally.

Please contact Ian Adams, Help the Aged, St James's Walk, London EC1R 0BE. Tel: 01-253 0253.

Lifeline Alarm Appeal Help the Aged

This space kindly donated by Tansell Telecom Ltd.

Joseph

Seeks top personnel for Management level. Experience in high fashion essential (5 years). Age 20-25.

Contact:

Elaine Davis on:
01 629 6077

JTS POINTMENTS

LYMER ENGINEER CHEMIST

industry

JTS POINTMENTS

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

PRODUCT MANAGER

Grants of St James's Limited is the largest wine merchant in the UK, with an extensive brand and wholesale marketing operation.

As a result of expansion, we require a Product Manager to join the team responsible for marketing the Grants of St James's wholesale package, as well as a number of products for which we are UK agents.

The successful applicant will have a major involvement in the planning and implementation of marketing strategies and service initiatives, including a large amount of customer contact.

Applicants must have at least two years marketing and/or sales experience, and will be of graduate calibre. This challenging post will be

filled by someone who is enthusiastic, practical, and can communicate effectively at all levels. The position offers a good opportunity for a career-minded person, aged middle twenties, to progress within a dynamic marketing structure.

The position is based at the company's head office in Derby; we can offer a competitive salary and benefits package, together with relocation assistance if required.

Applications, giving full details of education and career history, and current position and salary, should be sent to: Personnel Manager, Ref. GSJL 181, Grants of St James's Limited, Eastgate House, 10 Nottingham Road, Derby DE1 3TB.

GRANTS OF ST JAMES'S LIMITED
Established 1769
WINE MERCHANTS

Jonathan Wren
SYDNEY LONDON HONG KONG

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE CLIENTS PORTFOLIOS

Our client, a leading international bank, are seeking to appoint an additional PORTFOLIO MANAGER. This is an excellent opportunity for the right candidate to join a successful, growing team which provides an international investment service to high net worth individuals from its base in the West End of London.

The ideal candidate will have experience in managing personal portfolios, or internationally orientated investment funds, and the personal attributes expected of a Manager who will deal regularly with the higher bracket clientele.

An attractive remuneration package is offered (according to experience) with an impressive range of fringe benefits.

Applications in writing, with accompanying c.v. should be sent to:
Trevor Williams Quoting Ref: 4572/84

Jonathan Wren
Recruitment Consultants
170 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4LX. Tel: 01-623 1266

COUNCIL OF EUROPE Strasbourg, France

seeks

TRANSLATORS INTO ENGLISH

- English mother tongue with thorough knowledge of French (and preferably good working knowledge of other European languages particularly German, Italian or Spanish);
- good university degree, postgraduate translation diploma and/or relevant professional experience; some legal or legal translation background desirable;
- age under 35 for permanent posts (other candidates considered for short temporary contracts);

Gross salary approximately 17.000 FF (including expatriation) according to experience; family allowance as appropriate; tax exempt.

Further details and application form (returnable by closing date 15 October 1986) available from:

**Head of Establishment Division
COUNCIL EUROPE
B.P. 431 R6
67006 STRASBOURG CEDEX - France**

Imperial Cancer Research Fund Patenting Company

Finance Manager/ Company Secretary

(Part-time)

The ICRF is a leading cancer research institute of international repute with a scientific establishment of 800.

To meet the new opportunities in biotechnology and related fields we are expanding the role of our Patent Company. This new post, (part-time two or three days a week), will advise the Board on all financial matters and be responsible for the day-to-day financial systems and procedures.

Age probably not less than 45 but may suit person returning to work or recently retired. Practical experience of financial management and company law essential.

Salary range: (two days) £7,600 - £10,000; (three days) £11,500 - £15,000.

For further information and application form please write or telephone:

**Ms S.M. Hurley
Imperial Cancer Research Fund
Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2
on 01-242 0200 ext. 2357
quoting ref: 144/88**

Telephone Sales Person

c.£10,000

The Times Higher Education Supplement requires a telephone sales person to sell both classified and display advertisement space.

The successful applicant will have a good educational background and some telephone selling experience, and be prepared to work as part of a small team with the minimum of supervision.

Please write, enclosing full C.V. to Sue Peplow, Advertisement Manager, THES, Priory House, St. John's Lane, London EC1M 4BX.

AMAZING GRATES SHOWROOM SALES

Amazing Grates are engaged in the manufacture, sale and renovation of traditional period fireplaces. We require a professional, efficient person with proven sales experience and an artistic eye.

This is a demanding and rewarding position which will involve dealing with clients, finishing with our workshops and arranging showroom displays. The successful applicant must hold a full driving licence.

Apply to Mrs. E. Morda 01-883 9590/6017
**AMAZING GRATES LTD,
EAST FINCHLEY, LONDON N2**

TRAINEE BROKER

Due to expansion, I am looking for 2 very ambitious people. They must be aged 25-35 with working knowledge of West End brokerage. Earning above average income while training, rising steeply.

Call Glyn Moss on 01-829 8514.

PROPERTY MANAGER required to join our property services department. The successful candidate should have 5-10 years relevant experience in both residential and commercial property. Apply to Mrs. E. Morda 01-883 9590/6017

SEAM WELDER Need 2400+ to 3000+ per year. Age 25-40 and able to start in our office. This telephone the office to coincide the day you can earn large sums weekly selling at D. contact for the telephone after our training. No weekend or evening work and you start to work you earn £1000. Telephone 01-833 9144 or 01-833 8227

RECEPTIONIST. We require a dynamic, experienced lettering typewriter operator for a busy office. The successful candidate should have 5-10 years relevant experience in both residential and commercial property. Apply to Mrs. E. Morda 01-883 9590/6017

VICTORIA/WESTMINSTER Estate Agents require residential property Sales Negotiator in central London office. Full time. Salary will be given. Office hours 9.30am to 6.00pm. Tel: 01-225 2145.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

With interest in politics, must type and take dictation, two years work experience and willing to travel in Europe. Send cv to: 25, Golden Square, London W1.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

With interest in politics, must type and take dictation, two years work experience and willing to travel in Europe. Send cv to: 25, Golden Square, London W1.

ASPIRING COMPANY SECRETARY

The Company Secretary of this well established retail organisation now seeks a graduate to assist in the day to day running of the company. The successful candidate will have a degree in a relevant subject and will be a member of the ICSA. Advantages include a competitive salary, a pension scheme, and a company car. Apply to Mrs. E. Morda 01-883 9590/6017

ARE YOU DECISIVE? UNCONQUERABLE?

Would you describe yourself as persuasive, adventurous, self-reliant? Have you willpower? Could you successfully come through a demanding training schedule to break into something exciting, new and rewarding? If you are aged between 28 and 47 and come from the obvious background, call Peter Rockford on 01-831 0821.

SAMUEL LEWIS HOUSING TRUST

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

London - £23,000 + Car

We are a substantial and progressive Housing Trust controlling a Group of housing organisations, with assets of £42 million and a multi-million pound capital programme. The Group provides homes for ten thousand people through a combination of public and private funding and has an annual turnover of £3.6m.

Reporting to the Chief Executive and supported by a Department of 15 that includes both qualified and part-qualified accountants and a Wang VSGO, the Financial Controller has responsibility for the complete financial function of the whole Group. This will include the management and control of the Group's financial assets, controlling the planning and budgeting process, appraising new projects, refining management reporting, systems development and, through the Senior Management Team of which he or she will be a key member, contributing to policy development.

For a practical, experienced and well-qualified accountant with a lively mind and keen commercial sense, this position offers an excellent opportunity to join an energetic and expanding organisation.

The attractive remuneration package includes a car, non-contributory pension and other good benefits.

Please reply with full career details to: Gillian Walton, Personnel Manager, Samuel Lewis Housing Trust, Knights' Court, 6/8 St John's Square, London EC1M 4DE. Telephone 01-251 6091.

Jonathan Wren
SYDNEY LONDON HONG KONG

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

Our client, a major British international bank, wishes to recruit an additional marketing executive for its private clients portfolio services.

Ideally aged between 25 to 35 years, the successful applicant will have a background in banking/stockbroking with recent emphasis on fund management marketing, particularly to high net worth individuals. The ability work with minimum supervision and a willingness to travel to the Middle East are important factors.

An excellent salary and benefits package is available and promotion prospects for the future are very good. Contact Richard Meredith.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence

Jonathan Wren
Recruitment Consultants
170 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4LX. Tel: 01-623 1266

COMPANY SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT LONDON

An assistant (m/f) is required for the Company Secretary's Department of a leading U.K. quoted property group with international interests.

The successful candidate's role includes statutory and Stock Exchange compliance, liaison with outside registrars, processing of legal and financing documents and computerisation.

This appointment offers an excellent opportunity for gaining experience in a small headquarters team whose wide brief provides scope for advancement.

The starting salary will be between £10,000 and £14,000 p.a. and the successful candidate, possibly a graduate, is likely to be (but not essentially) a newly qualified Chartered Secretary or a final student. Other main benefits are free BUPA cover, life assurance and non-contributory pension scheme membership. Further valuable benefits accrue after qualifying service periods.

Apply in confidence to
Box No. (F.T.) MCR 107,
The McCann Consultancy,
Hazlett House, 4 Boulevard Street,
London EC4P 4BE.



THE DIRECT LINE TO YOUR NEW CAREER

Have a senior executive earning over £20,000 p.a. unemployed, hard working and suddenly - UNEMPLOYED. Over 75% of the top positions are never advertised! Fletcher Hunt & Associates are a specialist team established to help redundant, expat, or those seeking a change to find the right position, quickly and professionally through the unadvertised job market.

Consultancy income is often available to our clients who are out of work. We are specialists on the re-employment of senior executives. For a free confidential discussion Tel. Paul Fletcher
FLETCHER HUNT & ASSOCIATES
Premier House, 77 Oxford Street, W1R 0ER.
Tel: 01-434 0511

SHR LEADERSHIP & Coaching courses for senior executives in top financial institutions. 21 Westbury Park Drive, N14 6AA. Tel: 01-434 0511

CHAUFFEURS AGED 40 plus. Receive training 20 years experience. Great Driver of limousines. Available immediately. Tel: 01-225 2145

كلمة الأمل

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

CORPORATE FINANCE

Outstanding opportunities for young professionals

The Clients

- International investment banks
- Major UK stockbrokers

The Role

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- New Issues
- Management Buyouts
- Corporate Advisory Work

The Candidate

- ACA, Solicitor or Barrister, soon to qualify or recently qualified
- Training with a major professional practice
- Aged 24-27 years
- Graduate with first class academic background
- Strong interpersonal skills

The Rewards

- An opportunity to be at the forefront of the City revolution
- Involvement in the immediate and future decision-making process of major corporations
- Clearly defined long term prospects in a challenging and highly competitive environment
- High basic salary in addition to bonus and other substantial banking benefits

To discuss further a career in corporate finance, please contact Lindsay Sugden ACA on 01-404 5751, or write to Michael Page City, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH enclosing a curriculum vitae. Strict confidentiality assured.



Michael Page City

International Recruitment Consultants
London Brussels New York Paris Sydney
A member of Addison Consultancy Group PLC

Account Director Systems Engineer

Based In London

We are an aggressive, profitable and rapidly growing database software industry leader, with corporate headquarters located in California's Silicon Valley near San Francisco. Our commitment to supplying high quality, state-of-the-art database products has made us the leading supplier of UNIX DBMS software. Our growth has created exceptional career positions for Sales Professionals to represent us in Europe, and to be based in London.

Account Director

You will help lead our aggressive European expansion program in the OEM, Corporate Account and Distributor markets. UNIX and prior high-tech sales experience are required. Exposure to a multiple office environment and/or computer software sales are a definite plus.

System Engineer

We need unique individuals with a technical background combined with an interest in sales or customer support. If you have 3 years technical and/or sales experience, good presentation skills, combined with C programming, SQL database or UNIX programming, we would like to talk to you.

Local Interviews

We would like very much to meet you in the very near future to discuss the high-visibility, stimulating environment and professionalism we offer in the European start-up operation. We offer excellent compensation and outstanding benefits. Send your detailed resume to: Kathleen Ghazvini, RDS, 4100 Bohannon Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025 USA. All responses will be acknowledged.

Audit Manager

a Europe-wide role with a world leader

£20,000+car based Enfield, Middx
Matchbox Toys Limited, one of the world's top toy manufacturers, has this exceptional opportunity for an experienced finance professional.

Reporting to the Group Internal Auditor, who is based in Hong Kong, you will have full operating responsibility for the co-ordination of all financial and operational audits throughout the European division. The division includes manufacturing, warehousing distribution and marketing facilities in England - at Enfield and Rochford - and in France, Germany, Spain and Italy.

A qualified accountant, aged 26-30, you will probably be either, working in the profession, with one of the "big eight", or will have had at least 2 years experience of internal audit with a large multinational, ideally in manufacturing. Experience of computer-based financial systems will be advantageous as the European division will shortly be converting to IBM 38 equipment. Extensive European travel is anticipated therefore a sound working knowledge of either French or German is essential. Familiarity with US, German and French statutory reporting procedures would also be a distinct advantage.

As well as an excellent salary and company car the attractive benefits include generous relocation assistance where appropriate.

Please write enclosing a detailed c.v. to: Mr. G. Lewis, Personnel Manager, Matchbox Toys Ltd., Bureleigh House, Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex.



FINANCIAL CONTROLLER (ACA/ACCA)

£22,000 + PROFIT SHARE + CAR + EXECUTIVE BENEFITS
CENTRAL LONDON LOCATION

Highly progressive and successful group with extensive leisure industry, involvement, currently seek an excellent Finance Manager. Commercial flair and first grade technical accounting abilities will enable you to assume full responsibility for a rapidly expanding profit centre.

Top remuneration and benefits package. Phone 01-929 4991.

ACA FINALIST/NEWLY QUALIFIED GROUP FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT

£17,000 + CAR + PROFIT SHARE (c25%) + EXECUTIVE BENEFITS

High profile position within leading UK publishing group. Reporting to Board level, your portfolio will encompass a wide and varied range of financial accounting assignments. Considerable financial management of overseas subsidiaries (c30), including some travel. One of top 10 publishing houses. Ideal first move from profession for candidates in mid/late 20's. Phone 01-929 4991

For an initial discussion telephone Rory Macmillan MA on 01-929 4991.



Market Buildings
29 Mincing Lane
London EC3R 7EE

International Recruitment Consultants

Relational Database Systems, Inc.

Management Accountant

£14,000-£15,000 neg South-East

Dussek Campbell, a part of the Burmah Oil Group, markets a range of wax and oil-based compounds and a variety of timber preservatives under the well-known Solignum name. We are seeking a management accountant to develop our management information systems and to co-ordinate financial projections, budgets and the financial input to strategic plans.

Reporting to the Financial Controller of Burmah's Coating Division, you will have prime responsibility for management accounting within the UK company and a co-ordinating role for the Division worldwide. Activities could range from in-depth analysis of regular monthly financial performance to financial appraisals of any projects related to the varied activities of the company.

Candidates should be graduates aged 25 to 35 who are at least part-qualified accountants. You should possess proven communication skills and, ideally, experience of using IBM PC/System 36 software. You must have experience in working with reporting systems within an industrial organisation.

Success in this role could lead to career advancement within the Burmah Group.

Situated within the London Borough of Bexley, there is easy access both to the M25/M2 motorways and to Central London.

Please apply, enclosing full cv, to the Resources Manager, Dussek Campbell Limited, Thames Road, Crayford, Kent DA1 4QJ.



ORION ROYAL BANK LIMITED

A member of The Royal Bank of Canada Group

Director of Operations

Occupying a leading position in the International Capital Markets with a continuing strong expansion of its activities in the areas of Eurobonds, Gilts, Equities and Treasury products, the Bank invites applications from candidates with superior ability and management skills to fill the appointment of Director of Operations at Executive Director level.

The successful candidate will have a minimum of five years experience of managing a settlements operation, a proven record for people management and organisational skills to plan and implement the changes in settlements techniques which technology will bring.

A highly competitive remuneration package of salary plus benefits will be provided.

Applications, in strictest confidence, should be addressed to:
D. C. Blacker,
Personnel Director,
ORION ROYAL BANK LIMITED,
1 London Wall, London EC2Y 5JX.

FINANCIAL ANALYST Surrey

£16,000
Multinational blue-chip organisation offers a stimulating, challenging opportunity to a dynamic, part-qualified or qualified accountant. Based in the European Head Quarters, duties will include profit planning, financial analysis and acting as financial controller for a French subsidiary. Excellent benefits and prospects.
Ring Ann Cowell.

COMPANY ACCOUNTANT C.London

£15,000
An exceptional appointment for an outgoing, ambitious accountant, close to qualification, to enter the fast-moving world of public relations. Our client is one of the industry's most innovative groups and seeks to recruit an accomplished individual to assume full responsibility for the entire accounting function of a substantial division.
Ring Simon Mallon.

GROUP FINANCE City

£12,000
City based International seeks a high-flier to join their expanding finance team. As Assistant Group Accountant you will be involved with production of information on 80 subsidiaries including monthly performance analysis and statutory reports. The groups diverse interests will enhance career prospects.
Ring Jane Nailor.

HUDSON SHRIBMAN
THE COMPLETE FINANCIAL SELECTION SERVICE
Vernon House, Stiffon Avenue, London WC2A 2QH. Tel: 01-831 2323

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGER

£12,000 plus profit share and BUPA (ref: 1236)
A very successful breakaway offering a potential board position to a bright Retail Account Manager. You will be responsible for the profitability, planning and day to day tactics for up to £1 million in retail and/or mail order business.

CLIENT SERVICES DIRECTOR

£20,000 (ref: 1226)
Business to business and/or strong financial advertising experience is required for this senior post, leading to a board position; on a £2 million account group. You will be in a senior position with a recognised agency and looking for more creativity and drive from your peers.

For further information please contact
GARY WILSON
(24 hour confidential answering service)

ANDERSON BEECH ASSOCIATES
SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT
061 228 2824
ANDERSON BEECH ASSOCIATES LIMITED, 100, THE PIAZZA, PICCADILLY PLAZA, MANCHESTER, M1 4AL

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS
The RSA environment section is a small team working on a varied programme of conventions, seminars, award schemes and publications. It needs a secretary with accurate typing, good organisation skills and an ability to work on own initiative and interest in environmental issues would be an advantage.
Salary up to £7,950 pa, 5 weeks holiday, flexible working hours, DV's, interest free season ticket loan.
Please apply to:
Janice Richardson,
RSA, 6, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6ES
By the 24th of September 1986
RSA is an equal opportunity employer

GRADUATES £10-£12K
or good 'A' levels
We work with prestigious companies who seek young and dynamic sales executives. You may be under 30 with at least 6 months' experience in a commercial tele-sales or field-sales environment. Benefits include a high basic salary plus commission plus car. First class training and career development prospects.
For immediate consideration call or send CV to Lindsay Hoggie,
SALES & MARKETING APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET, W.1, 01-629 7262

Recruitment Consultants

Better your connections

Not all recruitment companies are the same... WE are a young but rapidly expanding finance/accountancy consultancy, have a first class reputation, offer an environment conducive to the most ambitious, and seek nothing less than pre-eminence in the market.

YOU are under 30, have a record of achievement in finance/accountancy recruitment, offer high potential plus the personal qualities essential to success, and seek fast track prospects coupled with excellent rewards.

If our corporate philosophy and objectives coincide with your personal profile and ambitions, WE should be talking. With our target earnings of around £25,000 plus car (consisting of a generous five figure basic salary plus quarterly bonuses) can YOU seriously afford to ignore these outstanding opportunities?

Not all recruitment companies are the same: YOU owe it to yourself to find out why.
Call me, John Constable, (in the evenings/at weekends 549 5519) or write briefly enclosing a CV and out of hours number.

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How three men fought back

How would you picture the shape of your future working life if you were to learn today that your job was becoming redundant? How would you feel about such a prospect?

For many people a career beyond redundancy appears unimaginable. Often they have been in the same field of work for 10 or more years, moving into adulthood with it and building their sense of adult identity through it in vital ways. If they have also been in the same profession and organization for some time the mould is even more firmly set. To envisage ways in which they might pay their bills and use time day-by-day and week-by-week without the job and organization they've become familiar with might well evoke the same kind of response as asking how it would be to live under water. How would survival be possible?

● Charles (37) had a background that included public school, a professional qualification and 15 successful years in ascending levels of management in a major corporation. Many of his colleagues, neighbours and friends believed that he would handle his redundancy in his characteristically decisive manner. While he enjoyed the bravura image he had cultivated, as the days of guaranteed employment grew fewer, Charles became aware that he didn't know how to cope with the sense of confusion welling up inside. He realized to his distress how he had a lot more experience on the selecting side of recruitment than on the asking side, having not applied for a competitive appointment for many years.

Finding the confidence to hold out for what you really want

Fear had become almost numbingly real and his standard routines of self-exhortation just didn't seem to work any more, especially after his psychologically and financially bruising experience at the hands of so-called consultants who - for a fee of several thousand pounds - had guaranteed to provide him with introductions and failed to honour their word.

With the unfailing and cheerful support of his wife and of a professional career counselling group he consulted, a new sense of self-assurance came about almost unawares. He first realized with conviction that he was coming back into his stride when he told a recruitment consultant that he didn't like the way an interview was going and wished to start again.

The recruitment consultant came back to him some months later with an introduction to a City firm looking for someone with his distinctive pattern of experience.

He now felt confident enough to hold out for what he really wanted: the appointment as a part-time director on the basis of working three days a week (so that he would be free to cultivate other possibilities of earning as a part-time

Prospects can seem grim after redundancy. Kieran Duignan looks at how Charles, Tony and Ron found it an enriching experience

self-employed consultant, thereby fire-proofing himself against the shock of "hundred per cent redundancy" on any later occasion).

His assertiveness paid dividends - the City firm was sufficiently confident that it could put his negotiating talents to its service that it agreed to appoint him on almost the exact terms he asked for. Less than six months after his job actually became redundant, Charles entered a new phase of his career.

For him, this phase is unfolding into one embracing "a portfolio" of paid work, combining directorship of a newly-formed company with consultancy on a self-employed basis (that draws on his experience of negotiating, publicity, training and personnel management).

● Tony (39) is a very different person. Nigerian by birth and upbringing, he had trained and worked as a marine engineer (with the first class certificate of the Board of Trade). While he had enjoyed many of his travels and life aboard ship - he was very perceptive about the attitudes and feelings of others and probably worked well in a technical team, both as a follower and as a leader - he was becoming increasingly concerned about the consequences for his family of long absences from home.

In this sense, redundancy came as a relief for it brought to a head the question of finding an acceptable livelihood in or around the family home in London.

Although one part of him was inclined to look for opportunities to leave his previous way of life totally and to become involved in a job with young black people, another part was anxious about the risk of the extent of such change and was more inclined to find ways of continuing to use his engineering know-how.

The career counsellor he consulted drew his attention to the possibility of doing a one-year full-time conversion course leading to a Higher Certificate in Building Engineering Services of the Business and Technician Education Council, with a substantial grant from the Manpower Services Commission.

He applied successfully for admission and now, a year later, has completed the course with flying colours and is working as a technician with a major building services contractor.

● Ron (54) is an honours graduate and chartered electronic engineer - and a young grandfather, with the last of his six children in the sixth form. During the 10 years before his job was made redundant

he had moved from a purely technical role to a team leader in the multinational corporation where he had spent his whole career. Looking back, he felt strongly that these years had been a time of stagnation for him.

A perfectionist, he was keenly puzzled about frequent assessments in which he had been faulted about lack of sensitivity to attitudes and feelings of people working with him. As a devout churchman he was also sharply hurt, for this shortcoming was not due to lack of sincere effort on his part to tune in to others.

Taking part in regular meetings of a counselling group for redundant executives enabled him to get some insight into his interactions with others. But habits of more than 50 years aren't easily changed.

What did enable him to find a breakthrough was the growing realization of how much the central impulse of his life in recent years had been his interest in church affairs.

With the encouragement of a career counsellor, he explored diverse possible ways of finding expression for this during the next phase of his career and succeeded beyond his expectations. He applied successfully for a part-time vacancy as an organizer of pilgrimages, leaving him enough time to pursue his self-appointed project to develop low-cost computerized information systems for use by religious groups.

As he no longer regarded himself as a practising engineer he didn't find it an enormous wrench to move into a working future beyond his original

Learning to live with courage through shock and to build something new

profession that offered him meaning with a lively sense of calling.

To say that people are discovering what lies beyond the shadowy experience when their jobs are made redundant is by no means to make light of those unfortunate people for whom the experience is psychologically crippling. It is intended to highlight how people can learn to live with courage through the shock and pain and build something new in their lives - often in ways they feared would be beyond them.

The people mentioned here faced the similar problems of deep uncertainty about just who they sensed they really were, in what roles they would now earn an acceptable livelihood and how to do themselves justice in applying for work, both on paper and in selection interviews. Putting their careers back in motion was a struggle and the individuals were psychologically enlarged and tempered by the process.

Kieran Duignan works as a counsellor with individuals and groups about problems of career redirection and redundancy.

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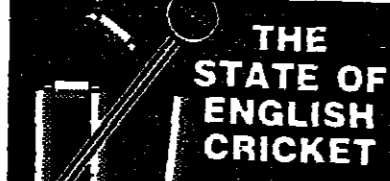
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Four-day matches are Imran's solution



Day two of the special reports in *The Times*. Peter Ball hears the players' verdicts

What I can't understand," Imran Khan said, "is why they don't ask the players' opinions about the amount of cricket we play." Which is why he had gone to him with that question, and others, about the state of the game in England from the viewpoint of the truly international cricketer, Pakistan Test captain, one of the world's best all-rounders and with the experience and love — and frustration — gained from 10 summers in the country and more than 10 winters playing around the globe.

We started with the suggestion of four-day county championship matches. Imran is convinced that while four-day domestic competitions have helped other countries improve immeasurably, the present problems of English cricket can be traced firmly to the quality and quantity of the English system. "The objective of the three-day game is to produce Test cricketers and it is not doing so," he said, as he embarked on a wide-ranging analysis of the structural deficiencies which have persuaded him to restrict his appearances for Sussex.

"I am so bored with this nonsensical contrived cricket where, with two teams level on the morning of the third day, you have to give the other side runs to set up a declaration, so you get these ridiculous hundreds being scored while the wicketkeeper is bowling. But on good wickets, with fairly evenly balanced sides, which most counties are now, I cannot see how one county can win without contrived results. And what happens to the leading teams is that no one will set them a target, so in order to get a result they produce under-prepared wickets, which are not good for cricket."

Even more destructive, he believes, is the volume of cricket played, dulling players' appetites so that by mid-July the keenness of early-season cricket has been dissipated, with all except the two or three top teams just going through the motions. "In one spell this season Sussex played 42 days' cricket out of 44. It's complete madness. They were worn out. One-day cricket has changed everything — travelling has increased, which is more tiring than people realize, and the extra pace of the one-day game adds to the physical demands."

Anyone who spends the summer



Clive Lloyd: "I'm not sure that the authorities are getting to grips with the changes"

Graeme Hick: "There has to be more planning put into the fixtures so that there is more spare time for the players to get their energy back"



Imran Khan: "The objective of the three-day game is to produce Test cricketers and it is not doing so"

following the county circuit will recognize the force of Imran's observations but it is the consequences for English Test cricket which give his arguments for a restructuring their greatest thrust. Conceding that the volume of cricket played provides a thorough grounding in the game, he accepts that it has its advantages in producing batsmen "to a certain level" but he has doubts about its ability to equip them properly for Test matches.

"They learn a lot because they get so many knocks but the disadvantage is that every innings becomes just another innings. If you fail today you get another tomorrow, so it is not a big occasion and they don't learn to play under pressure."

That players are expected to prove themselves over a long period before being selected, and then frequently are dropped before having the chance to acclimatize to the greater pressures of Test match cricket, only exacerbates the problem. But if the emergence of Bailey, Whitaker, Metcalfe and Fairbrother suggests that we are still discovering batsmen of considerable promise, the dearth of fast bowlers is unarguable. It is no cause for surprise, according to Imran.

"I just cannot see England producing

pace bowlers with this amount of cricket. For a young fast bowler it is a killer. At 18 or 19 you aren't physically mature and your body can't support the demands made of it. They are young and eager and want to make their mark and so they bowl through niggling injuries, and captains, being human and wanting to win, use them and sooner or later something goes — ankle or knee or back or shoulder. And nothing restricts your pace like a serious injury.

"If you look at the young English fast bowlers who have come through in my time — Dilley, Foster, Pigott and Adrian Jones — they've all been set back by injury. Tony Pigott has got a pin in his back after he fractured it because his backbone wouldn't stand up to the strain at a young age. So has Foster. "Adrian Jones is the best prospect I've seen. He's got natural late away swing, he bowls close to the stumps, he's quick, aggressive and bowls the unplayable ball. If he can survive a whole season he'll play for England — but he just cannot survive the pace at the moment."

"He comes off on Tuesday worn out after a spell and on Wednesday morning, perhaps after a 150 to 200-mile journey in between, he has to get up and start bowling again and he goes off limping. It is just too hard for young bowlers. If you look at the record of the

genuine English fast bowlers of my era, John Snow and Bob Willis, neither featured in county cricket. Chris Old was as fast as anyone in the world on my first tour in 1971. By 1975, after three years of injuries, he had become a medium pacer. And that is what county cricket, day in, day out, encourages."

That trend is increased by the spread of poor wickets lacking in pace, another product, Imran believes, of the excessive amount of cricket played in this country and a development which does nothing to help prepare bowlers for Test cricket. "Have used to be fast and even that is a slow seamer nowadays. This summer I just didn't think the England bowlers were good enough because they were used to bowling on green, under-prepared wickets and so, when they came to Test wickets, they struggled."

We played against Neal Radford at Worcester and he was virtually unplayable because he put it on a spot and it moved away a lot. When he put it on the same spot on good wickets in Tests, he found himself being driven all over the place." The Pakistan captain has a ready solution for these intractable problems, which have been so visible in England's recent Test record. He believes that

following the examples of other countries and instituting a four-day competition would produce much better cricket and hence much better cricketers. A shortened programme of 16 four-day matches, he insists, would also enable groundsman to produce better wickets as well.

Along with that change he would cut down the amount of limited-over cricket. The Sunday league, "which is no use to anyone," would go, leaving the championship games to be played from Friday to Monday, and there would be only one limited-over competition, 60-over games, either league or knockout, played on Wednesdays.

He is, perhaps, too sanguine about wickets being improved as a result and he admits that to expect universally good wickets is perhaps over-optimistic but he utterly rejects the idea that a four-day competition would lead to slower, more negative cricket. He does concede that in his opinion a struggle for first-innings lead occupying most of the four days would be preferable to the contrived finishes in the three-day game.

That argument may not appeal to everyone. His experience with New South Wales in the Sheffield Shield has made him an enthusiastic advocate of the four-day game, believing that it

produces more competitive and enthusiastic matches, and his arguments for its effect on English Test cricket are weighty. "Four-day cricket is nearer to five-day Test cricket and is a better preparation for it. There is no 100-over limit, so sides can't just wait for the declaration. Bowlers have to keep on trying to get wickets, so they have to learn to get people out on good wickets and not just rely on line and length. It restores a place to spin bowlers, who, at the moment, are only used to keep your over-rate above the level where fines come in."

For batsmen it is obviously better, it gives them a chance to build longer innings, it gives numbers six and seven time to play an innings. And, because they will be playing fewer innings, it will be a bigger occasion and teach them to play under pressure, which is one area where the Australians, who play too little cricket, are so impressive. "Because it is so competitive, Sheffield Shield cricket is fun to play — Dennis Lillee once told me he sometimes enjoyed it even more than Test matches. I couldn't believe my ears, because no English player would ever say that about county cricket — England players just go through the motions when they go back to their counties."

Lloyd takes a swipe at the rules

Defenders of the status quo might be tempted to dismiss Imran Khan's critique as the special pleading of a player who has cut down his own commitments in county cricket. Even the crustiest committee man, however, would find it hard to ignore Clive Lloyd, who has slugged through the toil of the county circuit for most of the 18 seasons since he joined Lancashire in 1968.

The most successful captain in West Indies' history, Lloyd is one of the game's most respected elder statesmen, the last person to denigrate English cricket. Yet he agrees with much of Imran's analysis, concurring with the view that too much cricket is played, with a serious effect on quality.

"By August," he says, echoing Imran, "half to three-quarters of the teams have nothing to play for and are going through the motions. The demands are much higher than they used to be when I started, there is a lot more travelling and players get more injuries now. Even the hours are longer — I played at Oxford Univer-

sity earlier this season and it was the first time I had played decent hours, 11.30 to 6.30, for years."

But while agreeing that four-day cricket, with a shortened programme, would be beneficial — "the four-day game breeds better players" — Lloyd also believes that changes in the three-day game since he began playing have been counter-productive. "Cricket has changed a lot in the last 10 years and I'm not sure that the authorities are getting to grips with the changes. The reason the gap between county and Test cricket is widening is because of all the rules," he says, citing the over-rate requirements as a positively destructive influence.

"It messes up the game. If we bowl 16 overs an hour we finish the day's play at the allotted time but we don't meet the required over-rate, which is nonsense. Bowlers can't learn anything because they're rushing to get through their overs and batsmen can't rely on quick bowlers being whipped off after six overs instead of going on for 10 or 11. So when they come to Tests and have to battle against quick

bowlers they don't have the grounding."

But if Lloyd is convinced that such rules are positively harmful, he also mourns some of the effects of one-day cricket. "Spinners have lost the art of flight and tossing it up. Geoff Miller used to have a beautiful loop when he started with Derbyshire but one-day cricket has killed it."

Yet he is an admirer of the NatWest competition, perhaps understandably, given his and Lancashire's success in 60-over matches from his early years with the club. "The 60-over competition is one of the best competitions ever invented anywhere in the world."

Although agreeing with Imran's desire to cut down the amount of cricket, he believes that financial necessity dictates the retention of a Sunday league and he is prepared to countenance a Saturday limited-over league as well, with the four-day championship matches played from Tuesday to Friday. "We must have 140, England 280 and 236 for 4. England won the match by 6 wickets, and the series."

He suggests that all aspects of the game would be improved by the inclusion on committees of people who have come fresh from their playing careers rather than those returning to the game after a spell away, a point he particularly stresses on selection committees. There he feels that umpires could also play an invaluable role. "They see players consistently rather than being impressed by one sighting on a flat wicket."

Lloyd does not go all the way with Imran in blaming the structure. As one would expect, with his impeccable record, he is completely out of sympathy with undisciplined behaviour, particularly when it is likely to influence children, and he questions modern players' dedication. "I don't think they have the same dedication as Boycott and Edrich but that is true in other countries, too, it is not just an English problem. I wonder if the people in charge are too soft. Players are better paid nowadays and perhaps more dedication should be demanded of them."

The natural talent that can play the system and win

Twenty-year-olds who have scored 2,000 runs in their first full season are unlikely to find much wrong with county cricket and Graeme Hick, who has emerged in 1986 as one of the game's potential greats, is no exception. Hick, who began the season hoping to play in half of Worcestershire's matches and score 1,000 runs, understandably confesses to being delighted with the way the year has gone and he confirms Imran's point that, for batsmen, three-day county cricket is a solid training ground.

"I have learned an incredible amount in the year from both my own side and from studying players in opposing teams," he says, acknowledging that the sheer volume of innings in a season provides splendid experience. He points out, however, that it is a lot easier for batsmen to cope with the demands than for bowlers and he adds that while you are in form the constant cricket is fine but "a bad patch can seem endless because if it lasts two weeks you have played perhaps eight innings in that time, so it seems as if it has been going on for ever."

It is hard to remember Hick having had a bad match this year. Let alone a bad patch, his ability impressing opponents and spectators alike. However, he is one of those few lucky people to be blessed with outstanding natural gifts, a batsman like Gower, Greg Chappell, Barry Richards, Viv Richards, Greenidge and Lloyd, who would probably reach greatness under any system, so his success can hardly be used to defend the present structure.

Even he admits that the demands of the system have taken the edge from his appetite at times. As an eager young stropmaker who finds transition between championship and one-day cricket easier than most, he still concedes that four-day cricket, with the effect of giving batsmen more time to build an innings, and also forcing them to work more at

their game in the middle because of the fewer games played, would have its attractions. Less critical than Imran and Lloyd of the three-day game as such, he concurs with Imran in deploring the effects of contrived declarations. He feels the answer lies in allowing the three-day game to take its natural course with proper cricket being played and captains declaring as they think appropriate rather than as the result of an arrangement with the opposition.

Of one thing he is certain: if the three-day system is to be retained along with the one-day structure, it needs amending, probably by reducing the programme.

There has to be more planning put into the fixtures, so that there is more spare time between them for players to get their energy back," he says. "I went through a stage of coming off feeling absolutely shattered even when I hadn't done very much in the day. There are times when the alarm goes off and you have to drag yourself out of bed to go off to play cricket again and when you do get a couple of days off you can't do anything in them, you just sleep."

For the moment — being young, fit and powerful — that feeling is temporary, his enthusiasm quickly reasserting itself when he gets into the dressing-room. How long that will be true remains to be seen, particularly if his hopes of Test cricket are to be delayed for another seven years, as they will be under the present regulations, although he is pinning hope on next month's meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board registration committee reducing that.

He is, understandably, non-committal on that subject but it is hard to imagine his bright enthusiasm surviving that long without becoming dulled by the daily grind. ● TOMORROW: The view of cricket lovers.

WHERE THE HONOURS WENT IN THE 1986 DOMESTIC SEASON

Britannic County Championship

Essex became county champions for the fourth time in the last eight seasons when they gained the three bonus points they needed from a drawn match against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge on September 12.

Winners: Essex (£22,000); 2. Gloucestershire (£10,500); 3. Surrey (£5,250); 4. Kent (£2,750); 5. Worcestershire (£1,375).

Championship table

Final positions

CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

Club	P	W	D	B	Pts
Essex (4)	24	10	8	5	78
Gloucestershire (5)	24	9	3	12	59
Surrey (6)	24	8	10	5	54
Kent (7)	24	7	15	2	37
Worcestershire (8)	24	7	5	12	32
Nottinghamshire (9)	24	7	4	13	34
Leeds (10)	24	5	7	12	28
Hampshire (11)	24	5	3	16	22
Yorkshire (12)	24	5	3	15	22
Derbyshire (13)	24	4	5	15	19
Warwickshire (14)	24	4	5	15	17
Sussex (15)	24	4	5	15	17
Worcestershire (16)	24	4	5	15	15
Lancashire (17)	24	3	7	14	12
Gloucestershire (18)	24	3	7	14	11

1985 positions in brackets. 1986 positions in bold. 1986 positions in brackets. 1986 positions in bold. 1986 positions in brackets. 1986 positions in bold.

NatWest Trophy

FINAL (September 6, Lord's): Sussex won the toss. Lancashire 242 for 8 (60 overs); Surrey 146 for 8 (40 overs).
Semi-finals: Lancashire 242 for 8 (60 overs); Surrey 146 for 8 (40 overs).
Quarter-finals: Lancashire 242 for 8 (60 overs); Surrey 146 for 8 (40 overs).
Semi-finals: Lancashire 242 for 8 (60 overs); Surrey 146 for 8 (40 overs).
Final: Lancashire 242 for 8 (60 overs); Surrey 146 for 8 (40 overs).

International

ICC TROPHY (July 7 and 8, Lord's): Zimbabwe 243 for 4; The Netherlands 218. Zimbabwe won by 25 runs.

Second XI

CHAMPIONSHIP: Winners: Lancashire — played 18, won 9, lost 0, drawn 9, points 227, average 12.16. Runners-up: Warwickshire — 16, 6, 5, 5, 174, 10.87.

Young Cricketers

England v Sri Lanka
TEST SERIES: First and second Tests — matches drawn. Third Test (at Trent Bridge): Sri Lanka 406 and 285; England 280 and 236 for 4. England won the match by 6 wickets, and the series.

Minor Counties'

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL (September 13-14, Worcester): Oxfordshire 185; Warwickshire 189 for 8. Warwickshire won by 2 wickets with one ball to spare.

Club and village

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Wiltshire Youngs Cup (August 25, Lord's): Weston-super-Mare 175; Stourbridge 175 for 8. Stourbridge won by 4 wickets.

NATIONAL VILLAGE CHAMPIONSHIP (August 24, Lord's): Ynysyafan 185 for 5; Forge Valley 170 for 8. Forge Valley won by 2 wickets.

Leading First-Class Averages

Batting	Qualification: 8 innings, average 45.00			
J No	Runs	HS	Avg	
J J Whitaker	31	1915	200	61.80
C G Greenidge	29	1878	222	64.76
G Hick	35	1838	227	52.51
R J Bailey	39	1785	224	45.76
A J Lamb	4	1350	100	337.50
B M Marshall	21	1243	126	59.19
A J Kilscharran	21	922	163	43.91
M W Gearing	23	831	101	35.96
A J Coope	16	825	102	51.56
A J Coope	19	801	135	42.16
R T Robinson	30	520	108	17.33
C B Rice	27	477	129	17.67
C Surtis	36	1441	133	39.75
A R Border	32	1385	150	43.28
R J Havel	19	1243	126	59.19
M Newell	28	821	112	29.39
P M Hoggback	35	1298	221	37.11
A A Mitchell	17	1243	126	59.19
D N Patel	28	974	152	34.79
J E Morris	39	2702	191	69.28
A A Mitchell	40	1788	161	44.70
I T Botham	17	887	104	52.20
A J Stewart	38	1584	165	41.65

Bowling

Bowling	Qualification: 25 wickets, average 24.00				
O	M	Runs	W	Avg	
M D Marshall	683.3	197	1425	98	14.84
R J Havel	515.3	148	1118	70	15.97
J H Child	821.1	271	1832	89	20.59
S T Clarke	341.3	95	808	48	16.79
C A Walsh	788.5	193	2145	118	18.17
A H Gray	245.3	67	807	44	18.34
T M Alderman	610	139	1882	88	21.28
M A Holding	387.1	102	999	50	19.98
A J Coope	425.3	49	807	29	27.83
P W Jarvis	428.4	82	1222	50	24.44
P B Cill	413.3	120	1022	45	22.71
A H Foster	745.3	204	2219	92	24.12
W W Daniel	462.1	92	1077	82	22.37
N Gilford	548.3	156	1341	58	23.12
A H Foster	745.3	204	2219	92	24.12
C G Small	607.3	148	1714	71	24.14
Imran Khan	306.2	66	850	37	23.57
A F Pringle	373.3	89	889	38	23.39
P A J DeFreitas	718.3	132	2105	91	23.13
J Garner	419	95	1091	47	23.21
A P Hughes	430	134	1298	56	23.06
A S Coope	432.4	94	1230	53	23.29
T D Topple	284.4	48	719	30	23.96

FASTEST HUNDRED: I A Richards 102 off 48 balls, Somerset v Glamorgan, at Taunton, May 8.

BEST BOWLING: N V Radford 8 for 70, Worcestershire v Somerset, at Worcester, September 4.

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Awards

YOUNG CRICKETER OF THE YEAR: Ashley Metcalfe (Yorkshire), tied with James Whitaker (Leicestershire).

Peter Marson

Clarke set to benefit

Sylvester Clarke, the Surrey pace bowler, has been granted a benefit during 1987. Clarke, aged 31, joined Surrey in 1979 but an injury ruled him out of the whole of the 1985 season.

Surrey have offered both Clarke and Tony Gray, his fellow West Indian fast bowler, new contracts and plan to use them in rotation as they did in the season just finished.

Monte Lynch is believed to be unsettled at the Oval. He has been given new terms along with Darren Becknell, left-handed batsman. Neil Kendrick, a left arm spinner, and opening batsman Paul Atkins.

Today's television and radio programmes Edited by Peter Dear and Christopher Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM, News, headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins. 6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank...

TV-AM

6.15 Good Morning Britain presented by Jayne Irving...

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: training to be a fireman...



Mel Smith, one half of Mel and James. BBC 2, 9.00pm

EQUINOX (Channel 4)

What They Don't Tell You When They Sell You a Computer. If the media has become rather too fond of computers...

CHOICE

obscure of computer jargon, the incompatibility of equipment and patently low re-sale value of old models.

Peter Waymark

response to last week's Any Questions? 7.40 A Musical Evening with Forbes Robinson.

BBC 2

6.55 Open University: Continuing Theories. Ends at 7.20. 9.00 Ceefax.

CHANNEL 4

2.35 Film: The Great Mr Handel (1942) starring Wilfrid Lawson in the title role of the celebrated composer...

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Radio 4

On long waves. VHF variations at 6.55 Shipping. 6.0 News, Weather. 10.10 Farming 6.15 Prayer.

Radio 3

On medium waves. Stereo on VHF. 6.00 News, Weather. 7.05 Morning Concert. Bach Orchestral Suite in C.

Radio 2

On medium wave. See Radio 1 for VHF variations. News on the hour. Sports Desk 1.05pm, 2.05, 3.05, 4.02, 5.05, 6.05 & 6.45 only. 5.55, 6.00am Charles New 5.30.

Radio 1

On medium wave. VHF variations at end. News on the half-hour until 10.30am on 10.30 and 12.00 midnight.

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